THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 18TH MARCH.

The good people of Ranchi have presented Dr. Goodchunder Roy, late Civil Surgeon of that station, with a testimonial consisting of a silver cup saucer and spoon with the following inscription thereon:

"Presented, to D. Gopal Chunder Roy, M. D., F. R. C. S. London Superintendent of Vaccination Circle Nagore, as an humble but sincere token of appreciation of his high principles and his kind and courteous treatment to his patients by his admirers, the Native Gentry of Ranchi April 1877. (Designed and executed by Hamilton & Co.)

THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT in introducing the new License Tax Bill, thus interpreted the principle of it: "The principle upon which the Government of India acted was that persons not carrying on any business or trade were affected much more severely by the high prices resulting from the scarcity than persons connected with any business, trade or dealing." We do not know whether this statement faithfully represents the opinion of the Government of India. If we mistake not, the Government of India maintains that a license tax on trades and dealings is just because these make so little contributions to the State compared with the land. As for the trades, which benefit at a time of scarcity, that remark has only a limited application. It is only those dealing in food-grains who benefit by scarcity.

WHEN THE License tax was proposed by Sir John Strachey we suggested that the Bill should be passed by the Imperial Council, which would have secured uniformity. The local Acts will be unequal in their operation. Thus in the Acts for Bengal, N. W. P. and the Punjab the schedule varies from 500 Rs. to 1 Rupee; in the Bombay Act from 500 Rs. to Rs 2, and in the Madras Act from Rs. 800 to Rs. 4. Then again in Bengal the exemption extends to trade profits up to Rs. 100, and in Madras up to Rs. 200. This inequality is much to be regretted. Need we say that the Madras Bill is more equitable.

ALL SILVER coins coined before the 1st September 1835 are called in by public notification. Those having such coins can exchange them for current coins of recent date at any Government Treasury, or at the Presidency Banks and their branches. After the 1st June 1878, they will cease to be legal tender. It is suspected by some that the object of this measure is to give an indirect extension to Paper Currency. We do not believe this. Surely the Government will not refuse to issue current rupees to those who may not be disposed to receive the exchange in currency notes.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA notifies the following revised postage rates:

	Letters.	Prepayment of one rate (5 tolas) compulsory.	Parcels.
	Annas.	Annas.	Annas.
Not exceeding ½ tola in weight,	½	...	...
Exceeding ½ tola and not exceeding 1 tola	1	...	...
Exceeding 1 tola and not exceeding 2 tolas ...	2	...	...
For every additional 10 ...	1	...	...
Not exceeding 10 tolas in weight ...		½	...
Exceeding 10 tolas and not exceeding 20 tolas		1	...
For every additional 10 tolas ...		½	...
Not exceeding 40 tolas in weight...		...	8
Exceeding 40 tolas and not exceeding 80 tolas		...	12
For every additional 40 tolas. ...		...	4

Unpaid Postage chargeable on delivery.

The unpaid postage rates shall be as follows:

For an unpaid letter—double the prepaid rate.

For an insufficiently paid letter or packet—double the deficiency.

For an unpaid parcel—the prepaid rate.

For an insufficiently paid parcel—the deficiency.

Newspapers are not to be registered nor to bear registration numbers. There is a change in the parcel rate, which is not fair. Parcels of any weight from 1 tolah or less to 40 tolahs will be charged at eight annas each. Should parcels of one tola and 40 tolahs be treated alike?

THE NEW RULE regarding contents of packets is as follows:

"Packets must not contain any communication having the character of an actual and personal correspondence unless such communication be wholly printed, lithographed or pyrographed. But proof sheets marked as such on the outside under the signature of the sender (even though they may bear manuscript corrections) shall be reckoned as being "wholly printed" within the meaning of this rule; and press manuscripts intended for publication shall not be reckoned as having the character of an actual and personal correspondence, provided that the packet has on the outside above the address the superscription "Press manuscript" and is addressed to the office of a newspaper.

This rule is reasonable. The sender of press manuscripts will not be required to put his name down on the cover.

PERSONS desirous to have a certificate of posting in respect of any article for which a post office receipt is not given, may obtain such certificate under the following conditions:—

(1) The certificates of posting should be presented ready written in ink along with the article to be posted, and both the certificate and the article should be presented at the Post Office window on any day except Sunday at least half an hour before the hour fixed for closing the mail for which it is intended.

(2) The certificate should be an exact transcript of what is entered upon the address side of the article to be posted, and should have a half-anna postage label affixed thereto.

(3) The Post Office will compare the address of the letter with the certificate and if it be correct, will obliterate the postage label and impress the dated stamp upon the certificate. The certificate will be returned to the person who presented it.

TUESDAY, 19TH MARCH.

THE EXODUS for Simla commenced yesterday. His Excellency the Viceroy, Lady Lytton and staff left Calcutta last night. The Calcutta season did not last quite four months, but during this short period Their Excellencies infused much spirit into the listless life of the ditchers. There was not one evening when there was not a dinner, ball, music, dancing or other amusement for Europeans at Government House. For the natives there were Garden Parties of Lady Lytton by public advertisement. On two occasions a chosen few were invited to the nocturnal assemblies at Government House, the one in celebration of the Anniversary of the Delhi Proclamation and the other at the latter end of February. In Lord Northbrook's time there was a freer intercourse with the natives.

THE FOLLOWING Members of the House of Commons have been appointed to form the Select Committee on Indian Public Works:—Mr. Balfour, Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Childers, Mr. Ashbury, Sir George Campbell, Mr. Onslow, Mr. John Cross, Mr. Hardcastle Sir Joseph M'Kenna, Mr. Simpson Lloyd, Mr. Grant Duff, Mr. Mal Holland Mr. Eustace Smith, Mr. Agnew, and Lord George Hamilton. Why is Mr. Bright's name excluded? Did he decline to serve?

COL. PERKINS, Deputy Commissioner of Fyzabad, was suspended for not loyally cooperating with the Commissioner in the administration of relief measures. The Commissioner said that it was impossible for him to administer his division satisfactorily, when one of his chief subordinate officers, instead of loyally assisting him, was constantly acting in direct opposition to his wishes, and thwarting him in their execution. Col. Perkins has been since transferred to another district.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a contemporary:

"The following is a certain and simple way of destroying the flies in a house. Spread a layer of coarse sand (each piece about the size of a small pea) on a plate, half-an inch deep. Sprinkle a little sugar over it and keep it constantly damp. Over the surface dust about 10 grains of white arsenic in fine powder. The above will last for a whole season, and not a fly will remain alive in the room. Of course if there are children or domestic animals about, it should be put above their reach. All that is necessary is to keep gravel damp by pouring a little water continously into the plate near the edge so as not to wash the arsenic to the bottom. This recipe costs 1 anna."

ANOTHER example of waste committed by the P. W. D. The *Behar Herald* notices a rumour to the effect that "the majority of the bridges and culverts, on the road between Bankipore and Gya, will have to be reconstructed, as on examination lately, by the State Railway authorities, it was ascertained that the masonry work was almost all Kutcha, and they would not stand the traffic of even light trains running over them." Our contemporary adds: "It seems strange that Supervisors, Overseers, and other subordinate officials in the department, on salaries not exceeding 150 rupees per mensem, can afford to expend quadruple that amount monthly, and at the same time accumulate a fortune, sufficient to retire upon, in the course of a few years."

IN SPEAKING to the motion for the six millions vote Mr. O'Donnell spoke as follows:

"If the Government sent out its recruiting sergeants among the Irish population, was it in these terms that they would call upon the manhood of Ireland to enlist under the banners of the Empire: 'Come, enlist and shed your blood for the Government which has refused and still refuses even to take into consideration your demand for the restoration of your legislative independence, come and fight for that Government which refuses to your brothers and you the common right of securing that that which they sowed they should also reap come and fight for that Government which, on the very eve of the declaration of this foreign policy, crushes, by a majority of 200, the strong request of your representatives to have the right of the poor man in Ireland guaranteed to some extent; come and fight for that Government which has denied, and continues to deny to the Irish people the rights of free education."

And the House did not protest against such language. But we forget that England is not India.

CARDINAL PECCI has been elected Pope, and has assumed the name of Leo XIII. The new Pontiff is described to be a man of moderate views in religious matters, though of distinguished piety, combined with great energy of character and capacity for ruling, qualities which he has shown both in the administration of his See of Perugia, and in the various offices which he has held under the Pontificates of Popes Gregory XVI. and Pius IX.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH MARCH.

THE CALCUTTA Correspondent of the *Standard* draws the following picture of the administration of criminal justice in India:

"The majority of the officials thrust suddenly into judicial work know at starting little or nothing of the method in which a trial ought to be conducted. The Criminal Procedure Code, it is true, furnishes the dry rules on the subject, but it can teach nothing to the youthful judge of the frame of mind in which he ought to approach the trial of an accused person.

But if this be true in the case of a judge who comes fresh to the consideration of a case, and has all the facts connected with it yet to learn in open court, what can be said of the frame of mind under which a district official takes his seat as judge in a case which up to that moment he has been prosecuting with all the ardour of a detective. For, control it in whatever language we may, the connection of the magistrate with a criminal case in its earlier stages is simply that of a highly-paid policeman. On the first breath of rumour reaching him the magistrate can set the police to work; he receives and can read the daily reports sent in by the police. In consultation with the district superintendent of police he suggests the plan of operations, the summoning of prosecutory witnesses, the search if necessary, of suspected houses; and so, having worked up the case until it is ripe for trial, he casts aside his magisterial functions for a time, and mounts the bench as the judge, with neither jury nor assessors to trouble him with their doubts nor to suggest unnecessary difficulties in his way. It is hard to convey to English readers the full measure of this great scandal.

And the result is a crop of Lokenathpore cases!

MR. CAIRD has accepted a seat on the Famine Commission, but he will have to arrange for his official duties in London before he can leave England.

MR. WALTER, M. P. the chief Proprietor of the *Times* has been blackballed at the Athenæum Club. This is said to be due to the line which the *Times* has taken upon the Eastern question. In other words the *Times* has not proved a correct barometer of the public opinion of England on that question.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* has the following:

"Mr. Francis Knollys, the private secretary to the Prince of Wales, was also blackballed on Monday last at the Traveller's Club. The Traveller's is, as most of your readers will know, one of the most exclusive clubs at the West-end. Still Mr. Knollys would probably have been elected into it had it not been for the fact that the members wished to read to the Heir to the Crown a lesson in decorum."

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION has passed the following resolution regarding the Vernacular Press Act:

"That the Committee resolve that a public meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta and its vicinity be called at an early date with a view to consider the advisability of memorializing Parliament with reference to the recent Vernacular Press Act. The Committee while strongly condemning such Vernacular papers as in any way help to dissemination seditious writings or to disturb the relations of sympathy and fellow-feeling which ought to subsist between the rulers and the ruled, are, at the same time, of opinion that the Act in question is unnecessary (due provision having been made under the Penal Code to prevent seditious or defamatory publications) and that it is calculated to restrain the legitimate freedom of discussion which the Vernacular Press had up to this time enjoyed. The Committee also desire to record their expression of deep regret at the undue haste and precipitancy with which the measure was carried through the Supreme Council, the Bill having been passed at one sitting and the public were thus denied the opportunity of discussing the provisions of a law

affecting so vitally the interests of the Native population of India."

THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT thus censures the District Magistrate and Collector of Coimbatore for allowing his son, a Barrister, to plead in his own court :

"The Governor in Council, though of course not doubting the statement made by Mr. Little, resolves to call upon Mr. Wedderburn, the District Collector and Magistrate, (of Coimbatore) to report in view to placing such report on formal record, whether it is the fact that the accused person in this case a village official, openly and numerously charged with peculation of famine relief charitable funds, was defended by his (Mr. Wedderburn's) son. Considering the effect which the appearance of such an advocate for the defence would have on ignorant and ill-informed villagers, His Grace the Governor in Council must regard is as a most lamentable occurrence and a very gross indecency."

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS gives us a lesson in epistolary writing. We took objection to the "my dearing" letters of Mr. Glascott to Mr. Skrine in connection with the Lokenathpore case. The *Daily News* says : "Would our contemporary be surprised to hear that 'my dearing' means no more than 'your humble servanting?" We really did not know that a private chit and an official letter mean one and the same thing. Of course we live to learn.

THURSDAY, 21ST MARCH.

A MEETING of the friends and admirers of Mr. Harrison, late Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore, was held on the 3rd instant at the Public Library Rooms of Midnapore. It was resolved to form a fund for a memorial to Mr. Harrison, with the proceeds of which some scholarships are to be founded for the encouragement of primary and high education. It was estimated that a sum of Rs. 8000 would be required for the purpose, to collect which four sub-committees were appointed, one to work at Midnapore and the three others at three other parts of the district. The meeting was unanimous in their high appreciation of Mr. Harrison's services to the cause of education, and the best way of commemorating them, it was of opinion, was to give an educational shape to the memorial. On the day Mr. Harrison left Midnapore, a large number of native gentlemen assembled at the ghat to bid him farewell. The scene was a touching one; our correspondent says there were many tearful eyes.

THERE WAS a public meeting of the Bograh People's Association held on the 10th instant at which the Calcutta petition against increase of taxation was adopted, and it was further resolved to petition the Magistrate for a pucca road from Bograh to the nearest station of the N. B. S. Railway at Chatangram.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to say that the arrangements on the N. B. State Railway, have not yet been placed on a satisfactory footing. Passengers and others clamour for time-bills but none to be had. There is mismanagement in the transit of goods, which suffer from detention especially between Sara and Damookdeh. Then owing to the inefficiency of some of the officers in charge of stations cases occur not unfrequently of overcharge and under-charge. At some stations ignorant passengers are subjected to impositions and extortions, especially on the ferry steamer. The neglect of an officer at Holdibari led to the risk of a collision, from which there was a narrow escape; the man has been summarily dismissed. The exertions of Mr. G. M. Drury, Traffic Superintendent, are highly spoken of, who is doing his best to secure efficiency in the establishment, and afford every facility and help to passengers and dealers. The Railway being in its infancy due allowance should be made for shortcomings.

THE SNUB which the Punjab Government has given to the local *Anjuman* regarding the proposed Educational Congress, has had a deplorable effect. Several valuable papers have been withdrawn evidently from a fear of the Government. Thus :

Agriculture,—Paper on Agriculture in the Panjab. (withdrawn).
" Schrottky's Agriculture (withdrawn).
Exhibition of Products (").
Industry and Commerce,—Paper on the Shawl alphabet and the dialect of Shawl-weavers and Goldsmiths (withdrawn).
" Exhibition of Panjab Manufacture (withdrawn).
History,—Ranjit Singh's daily record. (by his diarist) (withdrawn).
Archæology,—Paper on Swat sculptures, (withdrawn).
" Kashmir inscriptions (withdrawn).
" The Dards in Greek and Roman authors (withdrawn).
Exhibition of coins, (withdrawn).
Philosophy & Ephnography, The dialects of thieves, Magadds, &c (withdrawn).
The Languages of the Neutral Zone (withdrawn)
The songs of Kashmir, (withdrawn).

This is the way freedom of discussion is withered up even in scientific assemblies under the blighting influence of the despotic Government of the Punjab.

A CORRESPONDENT wishes to know when will the Jessore Line be commenced. He hopes that the line will be commenced from Dum-Dum, which will draw the trade of the surrounding country.

A MYSORE CORRESPONDENT does not seem to like the appointment of Mr. J. D. Gordon as Chief Commissioner of Mysore. We cannot agree with him; from what we know of Mr. Gordon we consider him a sincere friend of the natives. The same writer says that the marriage of the young Maharaja of Mysore will be celebrated on the 16th May next, and that the sum of a lac and a half has been sanctioned for the celebration of the wedding. A Gold Throne is being prepared for the auspicious occasion.

FRIDAY, 22ND MARCH.

A CORRESPONDENT draws attention to the appointment of Pundit Premnath to officiate as an Assistant Examiner of the 1st Grade, and as this is the second instance of the promotion of a native to that responsible post, he is of opinion that Col. Innes deserves credit for fostering indigenous talent in this way. Pundit Premnath is a native of the Punjab and entered the department in 1867. He is highly spoken of by our correspondent.

THE ENGLISHMAN has come to the following conclusion on the Lokenathpore case :

"Our opinion is that the deceased was murdered on his way to Loknathpur; but that the enquiry was so hopelessly bungled from the commencement as to render the detection of the murderer highly improbable."

But the suicide theory is still strongly cherished in certain official quarters.

THE GOVERNMENT of Bengal has sanctioned the constitution of independent benches of Honorary Magistrates for Calcutta. The following gentlemen are declared to be eligible to be elected as Chairman of the benches :

1. Baboo Ashootosh Dhur.
2. Rajah Harendra Krishna Bahadoor.
3. Mr. Allardice.
4. Baboo Doorga Churn Law.
5. " Gopal Lall Mitter.
6. " Grish Chunder Ghose.
7. Mr. Robert Harvey.
8. Baboo Juggedanund Mookerjee.
9. The Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadoor.
10. Baboo Romanath Law
11. " Gobin Chunder Dutt.
12. " Judoo Lall Mullick.

The European element is not sufficiently represented in the above list. Surely men like Messrs. Wyman, Knight, Jennings and Brookes ought not to have been overlooked. How is it that Mr. O. C. Dutt has been lost sight of? He is one of the most efficient Honorary Magistrates, and takes a most active part in magisterial work.

THE HIGH COURT notices with just severity the morbid tendency to file letters patent appeals involving such small sums as Rs. 3 to Rs. 5. The Court remarks, "In the large majority of the other cases, we have no doubt that the appeals were preferred merely for the purpose of delay. This is really a great scandal."

WE TRANSCRIBE from Mr. Justice Markby's speech at the last University Convocation the following graceful tribute to the memory of Maharaja Romanath Tagore :

"Maharaja Romanath Tagore died in the midst of us a few months ago. His youth fell in a time when the means of education at the command of natives of this country were what we should now justly deem inadequate. But, nevertheless, by making the best use of the opportunities at his command, Romanath Tagor, when he grew up, had a full right to call himself a well educated man. He was, moreover, a man of no prejudices. He never dreamt that it was beneath the dignity of a well-born and well educated man to betake himself to the pursuits of commerce, but he nevertheless attained the highest position of dignity and influence in the ranks of his fellow countrymen. The career of the Maharaja Romanath Tagor may teach more than one useful lesson to those of you who are now just beginning life."

HERE IS ANOTHER INSTANCE of the subberdustism of the Police. In Beerbhoom a respectable Muktear handled the Police rather roughly in cross-examining them in a criminal case. About six days after this took place, the Muktear was sent for by Captain Davis, the District Superintendent of Police, and accosted as follows :—

"*Captain Davis*—Is your name Narain Chandra Chatterjea?
Mooktear—Yes.
Captain Davis—(pointing his fist towards the Mooktear). You *Saitan* insulted my police officer before the Deputy Magistrate, I shall *shiklao* all Mooktears and pleaders who insult my police officer.
Then reading the Bengali report made by the head constable, Captain Davis continued :—
Did you say what is written here?
Answer.—Yes (the reasons being assigned for the answer).—
Captain Davis (having called for the Court Inspector.)
Esko sekha deo in the veranda, police ka hath dekhao, ham ek dom-se tomra mooktari khabiga.

The plucky Muktear did not pocket this insult. He instituted a civil suit for damages against the District Superintendent of Police, and petitioned the Lieutenant-Governor, who conveyed his displeasure at the conduct of Captain Davis and ordered that the Government should not defend the case. At the same time His Honor expressed a wish to the Commissioner that the case if possible should be amicably settled, and it has been so settled. Has Captain Davis made an apology to the Muktear?

We confess we do not like the amicable settlement of cases of this kind through the influence of Government.

WE ARE SORRY to notice the death of Mr. V. F. Taylor, Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, who has fallen a victim to overwork. It is said that the hardships experienced by him in carrying on his inspection work through a difficult part of the country brought on exhaustion, which killed him. Mr. Taylor was a good, kind-hearted, zealous and conscientious officer.

SATURDAY, 23RD MARCH.

IN A RECENT issue we gave the facts of the Pooree torture case. The Raja of Pooree with a servant has now been formally arraigned and committed to the Sessions. The poor man, the victim of the torture, says our Orissa correspondent, after an indescribable agony of 18 days has died. It is believed that Mr. Evans has been engaged for the defence.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that a society has been established for the prevention of crime. Why are the Police paid for?

THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL changes are on the *tapis*. Mr. Parks takes leave, Mr. Hodgkinson, Magistrate of Moorshedabad, goes to Sarun, Mr. Taylor of Pulma goes to Moorshedabad and Mr. Vowell to Rajshahye. Mr. Albert Mangles becomes Commissioner of Chota Nagpore *vice* Mr. Taylor deceased, and Mr O'Doyly acts as Opium Agent.

BOTH THE *Indian Daily News* and the *Statesman* of this morning condemn the Government severely for passing the Vernacular Press Act in such indecent haste. The *News* in a calm and argumentative article says, that if the object was to avoid discussion, this peace has been "purchased at a price altogether beyond any value which even those who are most opposed to popular discussion can fairly attach to it. In the first place, even if the details of the measure were in themselves good, they would carry no moral weight, having been adopted in this way, without consideration or criticism." Our contemporary then condemns the bill in strong terms.

THE STATESMAN is still more outspoken. It says :

"The affected indignation and surprise of Members of Council at the free criticism of the native papers is overdone and almost ridiculous. The dangerousness of these criticisms lies in their approximation to the truth. There is not very much in our Government of this country which justifies self-exaltation; there is not a little of which we ought to be heartily ashamed. We English are not actuated by a spirit of disinterested benevolence, or any other particularly lofty motives. The morality of the *Pioneer*, not that of St. Paul, is the correct expression of the prevailing tone of thought. Valentine Baker is our popular hero, and gossip about Government House the staple of our conversation. We have come to India exclusively with a view to "better" ourselves; and there can be no question that in this country, the most of us are in the enjoyment of power, a position, and an income, which our abilities would have secured to us in no other. Mediocrity is the lord of all; and the worth of a man is measured by the amount of his monthly pay, that being a most the only thing which broadly distinguishes a Lieutenant-Governor from a Junior Civilian. To suppose that a Government of this description will enkindle the love and admiration of an alien race is to expect a miracle. Let us then determine to, at least, clear our minds of cant. The strictures of the native press are a menace to public order? Granted. Then let them be suppressed or restrained. But there is no need for us to assume the tone and look of martyrs."

No native journal would venture to write in such language as the above.

THE CHITTAGONG lessons have not been lost upon Sir Richard Temple. In Bombay His Excellency has punished severely two Civilians for insubordination to the High Court. A Mr. Baines' name has been struck off the judicial list, and a Mr. Naorne has been degraded one step.

THE REMOVAL of the Munsif's Courts of Amptah and Oolooboriah to Moheshrekha has according to our local correspondent been determined upon, and as might be expected has given rise to much dissatisfaction and heart-burning. The Government has sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 1,436,000 for the construction of a road from Amptah to Doomjur. Our correspondent is of opinion that it would be more beneficial to the people, if this money were applied to the excavation of a canal from Amptah to Oolooboriah or from Guyerpore to Moheshrekha. Destitution is spreading far and wide among the ryots owing to successive scanty crops for the last 7 or 8 years, and the suggested measure, the writer says, may prove a real boon in times of drought.

THERE WERE 355 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending the 16th March, of which as many as 46 were from small-pox and 66 from cholera. From fever there were 88 deaths, from diarrhœa and dysentery 37, from tetanus 21 and from asthma 14; 9 children were still-born and 10 persons died from old age.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week.

London, 17th March.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* states that the Pope has ordered the Italian Bishops to legalize their posi-

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tions and ask for their exequator, this means a tacit acceptance of the loss of the temporal power. Reouf Pacha has had an audience of his Imperial majesty the Czar at which he was received with great ceremony. It is reported he asks that Varna be restored to Turkey. Typhus fever is raging at Adrianople and Phillipolis, much sickness prevails at Erzroum and Constantinople.

18th.—The ratifications of the treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey were exchanged at St. Petersburgh on the 17th. The conditions were published immediately afterwards, and communicated to the Powers. It is reported that serious negotiations are proceeding between the Austrian Minister for foreign Affairs and the British Embassy at Vienna, for an alliance between England and Austria; and that, if they fail Count Andrassy will resign. The Russian Army has crossed the river beyond San Stefano, and occupied villages close to Makrikor. The Russians have arrived close to Boiukdere, despite the Porte dissenting to the Russian occupation. Great excitement prevails in Constantinople, and seditious placards, have been posted up about the city.

18th.—25,000 Russian troops have arrived at Lchataldja from Tirnova. The Servian Army Corps, wishing to protest against the peace conditions, have reoccupied Wrandt, which they refuse to evacuate, unless forced to do so; the Servian Government remains passive. The Chancellor of the Exchequor, replying to a question, said that the British Government was perfectly justified, under present circumstances, in retaining the fleet near Constantinople. Major-General Donovan succeeds Sir F. Rolborne as Commander-in-chief of the Forces in China and the Straits.

Obituary:—General Sir Philip Guy.

20th.—It is reported that the Russians are concentrating troops on the Russo-Austrian frontier. The Russian wish to embark homeward at Boynkdere. The Porte, however, object and offers factilities for embarking at Sin Stefanos and Rodosto. In the House of Commons last night, Sir Stafford Northcote, in reply to a question, said that if agreement was attained respecting what England required of Russia, *viz.*, that all the peace conditions be submitted, the congress may meet at the end of March. Mr. O'Donnell moved that the native Indian Press law was subversive to the English constitution, and must be submited to the House of Commons. Lord George Hamilton defended the object of the Indian Government, which was to mitigate the severity of the existing law, and to facilitate the repression of sedition; he promised to submit the law when received. The motion was withdrawn.

20th.—The Czar has refused to reduce the Turkish indemnity which is fixed at three hundred millions of roubles.

21st.—Hobart Pacha has opened negotiations with the insurgents in Thessaly; it is reported he has offered them autonomy.

21st.—Russia declines to lay the treaty of peace on the table at the European Congress as demanded by England, though admitting that the Plenipotentiaries may discuss the clauses.

21st—In the House of Lords this evening, Lord Derby said England had not demanded the admission of Greece to the European Congress on the same footing as the guaranteeing powers, but had only asked that she should have a hearing at the Congress. The demand made by the British Government, that all peace conditions should be submitted to the Congress, was, he thought, moderate and reasonable. Russia had not yet sent any reply, but unless she accepts England's terms, his Lodship said, there had better be no Congress.

Rome 21st March.—Sr. Caiovoli has been appointed President of the Italian Council of Manitoers, and has succeeded, after great difficulty, in forming a now cabinet, with Count Corti as Foreign Minister, and Bruzz as Minister for War.

St. Petersburg. 22nd March.—An official Russian Gazette has published the conditions of the treaty of peace which are indentical with those already published by Reuter's offices The Servian troops have evacuated and the Russian troopt have occupied Pranja. It is semi-officially stated there that since England persists in her demands relative to the peace conditions the chances of the congress meeting have decreased.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Finance and Revenue Accounts and miscellaneous statistics relating to the Finances of British India from 1st April 1868 to 31st March 1876 Part I. 2. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for December 1877, and January 1878. 3. The Legal Companion, for January 1878, Vol. VI. No. I. 4. The Madrassah Literary Budget for February 1878. 5. Bombay Nagri Almanack for Sukabda 1800. 6. Indian Finance, a short sketch for non-Indian Readers. By Luttman Johnson B. C. S. 7. Weekly Report of the Madras Famine Relief Committee.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION has passed a Resolution expressing a desire to convene a public meeting regarding the Vernacular Press Act. The *Englishman* misreads the "British Indian Association" for the "Indian Association," and the *Pioneer* thereupon goes into hysterics and abuses the British Indian Association in its characteristic fashion. This is the way facts are recorded and commented upon by some of the Anglo-Indian prints, while they charge the Native Press with circulating fiction and falsehood.

WE ARE requested to announce that Rai Unnoda Prosad Roy Bahadur of Cossim Bazar has subscribed Rs. 500 in aid of the Building Fund of the Oriental Seminary.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., on *Thursday* the *28th Inst.*, next at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Atmosphere.

Admission Fee for non-subscribers—*Annas* 8 for a single Lecture: Or Rs. 3 in advance for 12 consecutive Lectures.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
22nd March 1878. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1878.

THE BUDGET.

THE following is an abstract of the Budget for 1878-79:

"Accounts 1876-77; Revenue £56,022,277; ordinary expenditure £58,205,055; loss by famine £3,450,000; deficit £2,18,778, exclusive £3,809,288 for productive works.

Regular Estimates 1877-78; Revenue £56,310,900; ordinary expenditure £62,113,000; loss by famine £6,500,000; deficit £3,431,000; excluding £4,877,000 for productive works. Surplus on ordinary account, excluding famine £3,069,000. Net amount borrowed in 1877-78 £8,620,000, half million lent Mysore and half million Gwalior for famine expenditure. Closing balances in India 14¾ millions.

Budget Estimates 1878-79; include 2¾ milions provincial rates and taxes hitherto shown separately, thus giving whole public revenue and expenditure; Revenue £63,250,000; new famine taxation gross £1,200,000; arrears land revenue £671,000; ordinary expenditure £61,094,000; of which £500,000 on famine in Madras; surplus £2,156,000, excluding £4,555,000 for productive works; £600,000 required for loans to Native States and elsewhere; £1,000,000 guaranteed railway capital withdrawn. Balances will be reduced 1½ millions, closing at 13 millions in India. Probably 2½ millions will be borrowed. Loss by Exchange £3,000 000 on remittance of 17 millions. Opium estimated six milions net, Malwa crop short.

No fresh taxation beyond January arrangements which are calculated to yield to imperial treasury in 1878-79 net £1,160,000. Inland sugar duties abolished £155,000 in anticipation early removal customs line. Import duties raw cotton coarse yarns and coarse goods abolished, £23,000, also under twenty-seven other Tariff Heads £54,000.

Great improvement guaranteed railways. Net earnings 1877-78 cover all interest.

Surplus provides full amount of famine insurance 1½ million according to recent pledges.

Policy of extending provincial responsibility re-affirmed. Results continue highly satisfactory. Important Minute by Viceroy published with the budget relative to active prevention of famine through agency of Local Governments. With ample customs to secure economy and financial regularity.

List of tariff heads freed from duty follows:—

Brushes, Building and Engineering material, Cabinet-were and Furniture, Candles, Canes, Rataus, Articles made of Cane and Ratan and Basket work, Carriages and component parts thereof, Chemical products and preparations, Coir and Articles made of Coir, Cordage and rope made of vegetable fibre, Raw Cotton and the following Cotton Grey Piece-goods if containing no yarn finer than thirties, namely, T cloths under 18 reed, jeans, domestics, sheetings, and drills, mule twist number thirty-two and lower numbers, water twist number twenty and lower numbers, Flax, and aticles made of flax, Fruits and Vegetables, Hemp and articles made of Hemp, Hides and skins, Instruments and apparatus except musical, Leather and articles made of leather including boots, shoes, harness and saddlery, Mats, Military and other uniforms and accoutrements, Naval stores not otherwise in Schedule, Oils, Oil and floor-cloth, Wall-paper, Piece-goods made of Jute, Pipes and other implements used in the consumption of tobacco, Pitch, tar and dammer, Railway materials. Seeds, Soap and Toilet requisites not otherwise in Schedule.

This Budget is for the most part a reproduction of the Famine Budget of January last. Famine finance is the pivot upon which the present Budget turns. Thus the accounts of 1876-77 show a deficit on the ordinary account of £2,182,778, of which a sum of £3,450,000 is due to Famine Expenditure and Loss of Revenue. The Regular Estimate for 1877-78 shows a deficit on the Ordinary Account of £3,431,000. This result is worse than the Budget Estimate by £2,809,300, due to the prolongation of the Famine in Southern India, which is now expected to cost, in loss of revenue and direct expenditure during the current year, £6,500,000. "The effects of the Famine," says the Government Resolution, "have so entirely disturbed the whole of the Financial arrangements of these two years that no useful comparison can be instituted between the Budget Estimates and the later results." The total net cost of the Famine in Southern India is now estimated to be—

	£
In 1876-77	3,450,000
In 1877-78	6,50,0000
Total	9,950,000

The famine expenses of the two Presidencies are thus shewn:

In the Bombay Presidency	1,300,000
In the Madras Presidency ...	8,450,000
	9,750,000

The general condition of Indian Finance before the Famine, we are told, was one of equilibrium. "But for reason," says the Government of India, "the financial position would have been satisfactory. The ordinary public expenditure, with the exception of that incurred in England for the Army, not only showed no tendency to increase, but excluding famine relief, it was less in 1875-76 by more than £1,000,000 that it had been seven years before. Excluding *Loss by Exchange* an element altogether beyond our control, the net expenditure during the same period had decreased by £2,254,000." It was shown also that the net revenue of the empire had increased in seven years by more than £2,000,000 or at the average rate of nearly £300,000 a year. In other words taking the savings with the increase of revenue the financial position was better by £4,254,000, and if that be the case, we do not clearly understand the necessity of taxation. Loss by Exchange is put down at £3,000,000, we hope it will be less, as silver has taken a better turn since its admission as legal tender in America, and the famine insurance provision is taken at £1,200,000; the total represents just the amount, which the Government is said to have gained as stated above by reduction of expenditure and expansion of revenue. Where was then the necessity for additional taxation to the tune of a million and a half?

In alluding to additional taxation the Government of India says: "In considering how these additional resources could be supplied, the Government of India anxiously directed its attention in the first instance to the possibility of reducing expenditure." The Government of India speaks much more cautiously on this subject than did the Finance Minister in January last. Sir John Strachey had said that there was no room for reduction of civil expenditure, and challenged the public to point out any item for that purpose. The Government of India is less dogmatic. It says, "in regard to the civil expenditure, although there are still some branches of the Administration for which the charges ought undoubtedly to be diminished, the Government was satisfied that no very great reduction could be hoped for." This is a concession to the public voice, for it was clearly pointed out in these columns and elsewhere that there was a wide room for reduction of civil expenditure. Then the Government of India remarks: "No reduction could be looked for in the charges for Productive Public Works, for, although the receipts from the Railways and Irrigation Works have rapidly increased and the financial results that have been obtained from these great undertakings are as a whole satisfactory and encouraging, the Government hopes to push on these useful works even more vigorously in the future than it has done in the past. This statement is disappointing. The public had a right to know whether the Government means to reduce the cost of Public Works establishment, to do away with the surplus officers, who are fattening upon the revenues of India, and to stop the perennial supply from Cooper's Hill. The late public meeting at the Town Hall mathematically demonstrated the waste and extravagance of the P. W. D, backed on some points by no less an authority than the Minister of Public Works, but the Government of India does not say a word upon that subject. We do not wish that the Government should stop public works, but what we do ask for, and what the tax-payers have a right to insist upon, is that the Government should cut the coat according to the cloth at its disposal, and that whatever it might spend it should do so carefully and economically. Both these elements are wanting in the administration of the P. W. D., and while the Government professes that it is anxious to reduce expenditure, it ought to give a tangible proof of its anxiety by sober performances. But this part of the Budget we repeat is wholly disappointing. Not a single ray of hope is held out that the Government means to reduce the present extravagant establishment of the P. W. D. With regard to military expenditure the Government of India says:

Up to the year 1875-76, the efforts of the Government to reduce the Military charges had been as successful as those made to reduce the charges for the Civil Services. The net cost of the army in 1875-76 was less by £1,000,000 than it had been seven years before. Unfortunately its cost during the last two years was again increased by upwards of £1,000,000, chiefly on account of increase to the Home charges. It is satisfactory that the Estimates for the coming year 1878-79 show a reduction under this head of more than £600,000 compared with the Budget

Estimate of the present year. The Government of India has been in communication with Her Majesty's Secretary of State on this important subject, and trusts that some arrangement may be found practicable which shall prevent further demands on account of the Home military charges, over which this Government has no power of control, being thrown on the Revenues of India.

This is not enough. The Government of India ought to insist upon the adjustment of the Home Military expenditure of India on a fair and equitable basis. Instead of this the Government simply expresses a hope that further burdens may not be laid upon the back of the Indian camel—the tax-payer. This is not the way we submit to protect the revenue. The Government of India is the guardian of it, and ought to be bold and uncompromising.

The only important measure, which the Budget announces, is the revision of the tariff, which has resulted in the partial remission of the cotton duties and of a few other duties on minor articles. The Government of India quotes a despatch of the Secretary of State in which he directs "the repeal of the duty of 5 per cent. on foreign raw cotton imported into India. and the exemption from import duty of the lower qualities of cotton manufactures upon which the present tax is incontestibly protective, not only in principle but in fact, and the value of which for revenue purposes is wholly insignificant." The remission of the duties would involve a loss of £150,000. The Resolution says, "the estimate of the Customs revenue of 1878-79 is, after allowing for all the proposed remissions, taken at £2,480,000 or £150,000 less than the regular estimate of 1877-78." This is a trifling amount, which a State which has an annual revenue of sixty-two millions, can well afford to give up. But the question is whether it has been wise for the Government to lay new taxes upon the people to afford imaginary relief to Manchester, for after all it will be a very—very small relief. On the other hand add the loss of revenue which the Government has suffered by these tariff remissions, and the reduction of the salt duty by 2 ans. in Bengal. Under the first mentioned head the Government loses £150,000, and under the last mentioned £200,000, in all £350,000, or more than what the Government will gain by the enhancement of the salt duty in Bombay and Madras. We do not subscribe to the sentimental theory of the equalization of the salt duty. It is not practicable, for the equalization cannot be carried out to the fullest extent without seriously adding to the sufferings of the poorer classes in Bombay and Madras, and if inequality could not be avoided, where was the necessity of surrendering 20 lacs of revenue in Bengal by a nominal reduction of the duty, which will go only into the pockets of the mahajuns? As for the reduction of the duties on coarse cotton and twist, we doubt whether the sop to Cerberus will have any effect, whereas it will render the Government open to the reproach of burdening the poor ryot of Southern India for the sake of the weavers of Manchester. It is here where the policy of the Government is liable to misapprehension and censure. The other fiscal reforms, which the Government has initiated are sound, while they do not involve much financial loss.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ACT.

APART from the policy, which underlies the new Vernacular Press Act, and on which we commented last week, the details of the Act we must confess are at direct variance with the professions made in the Council at the time of its enactment. Member after member rose—we beg pardon—sat up and protested that they had no wish to repress the liberty of the press, that they had no objection to legitimate and reasonable criticisms of public measures and public men, that if the conductors of the vernacular papers would confine themselves to such criticisms, and not assail the very existence of the Government by preaching sedition, the new law would not materially affect them. All this is intelligible, but do the provisions of the new Act tally with this protestation? In the first place the Preamble says, "whereas certain publications in oriental languages printed or circulated in British India have of late contained matter likely to excite disaffection to the Government established by law in British India, or antipathy between persons of different races, castes, religions, or sects in British India, or have been used as means of intimidation or extortion." Then Section 3 provides that the Magistrate may, with the previous sanction of the local Government, call upon the printer and publisher of a vernacular paper to enter into a bond for good conduct stipulating not to—

(*a*) print or publish in such newspaper any words, signs, or visible representation, likely to excite disaffection to the Government established by law in British India or antipathy between any persons of different races, castes, religions, or sects in British India; or

(*b*) use or attempt to use such newspaper

for the purpose of putting any person in fear or causing annoyance to him and thereby inducing him to deliver to any person any property or valuable security, or anything signed or sealed which may be converted into a valuable security, or to give any gratification to any person, or

for the purpose of holding out any threat of injury to a public servant, or to any person in whom they or he believe or believes that public servant to be interested, and thereby inducing that public servant to do any act, or to forbear or delay to do any act, connected with the exercise of his public functions.

Now, this section forms the key-stone of the new law. Let us examine the clauses *seriatim*. Nothing should be published "likely to excite disaffection to the Government." The existing law upon this subject is as follows:

"Whoever by words, either spoken or intended to be read, or by signs, or by visible representations, or otherwise, excites or attempts to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government established by law in British India, shall be punished with transportation for life or for any term, to which fine may be added, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, to which fine may be added, or with fine.

"*Explanation.*—Such a disapprobation of the measures of the Government as is compatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of the Government, and to support the lawful authority of Government against unlawful attempts to subvert or resist that authority, is not disaffection. Therefore the making of comments on the measures of the Government, with the intention of exciting only this species of disapprobation, is not an offence within this clause."

May we ask whether this law is not sufficient for all practical purposes? If any public writer contravened this law, could he not be sufficiently punished under it by a competent court of justice? To say that the court might not convict would be simply to express a want of confidence in it, for the existence and maintenance of which the Government is responsible to the country. Now, stringent as Mr. Stephen's law is, it protects the liberty of the press, for it distinctly declares that "such a disapprobation of the measures of the Government as is compatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority of the Government, and to support the lawful authority of Government against unlawful attempts to subvert or resist that authority, is not dissaffection." But no such safe-guard is contained in the new law. It does not define what would constitute "disaffection to Government." The conception of "disaffection," if we may so express ourselves without irreverence, is left to the internal consciousness of the Magistrate, the local Government and the Governor General in Council. The internal consciousness of these functionaries is apt to be greatly influenced by individual temper, ideas and idyosyncracies. There will be no judicial test of it. Without the ryder of Mr. Stephen's law, and without the intervention of a judicial tribunal the professions, which the Government has made in passing the Bill, may be completely neutralized in practice. Then, again, the Act declares punishable any attempt to excite "antipathy between any persons of different races, castes, religions, or sects in British India." Now, the first question is whether such "antipathy," which we do not by any means defend, constitutes sedition, or is subversive of the existence of the Government? Section 298 of the Indian Penal Code provides against the offence of wantonly "wounding the religious feelings of any person," and that law has hitherto been found sufficient for the protection of society.

Then, again, how is the "antipathy" to be proved? Criticism must necessarily be hostile to somebody or other. The man criticised cannot but feel displeased, and if a native criticises a European, is the former to be charged with exciting "antipathy between persons of different races?" We know such a charge is not unfrequently recklessly levelled against native publicists. Take for instance the Macdonald *vrs.* Phillips' case noticed in these columns. We published in these columns a statement of Mr. Macdonald, giving an account of his ill-usage by Mr. Phillips, which by the bye he (Mr. M.) we are told had filed as an affidavit before a Magistrate; we did not make a single comment upon it; on the contrary we said that this was only one side of the story; and yet the *Pioneer* said that we published it from a race-feeling, because as our generous critic supposes we are always "on the look-out for charges against the brutal European." Now, suppose the new law had been applicable to us, might we not have been arraigned under the "antipathy" clause? Surely such a clause is not compatible with a fair exercise of the liberty of the Press. Again, discussions between Christian Missionaries, Hindus, Mahomedans and Brahmos are very frequent; under color of this clause an aggrieved person or class may complain of particular writers on the pretext that they have been exciting "antipathy" by their writings. At this moment an acrimonious controversy is going on between two sections of the Progressive Brahmos regarding the marriage of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen's daughter; neither party is mincing matters, but the stronger or the more influential party, failing in logic, might avail itself of this one-sided law, and seek to repress all criticism. It is possible that the Government may not listen to such application, but who knows that a psalm-singing or a pro-planter Government may not enforce the law on the application of Christian missionaries or powerful Indigo or Tea planters on the ground that the writings complained of had a tendency to "excite antipathy between persons of different races, castes, religions or sects." Thus the law may operate to the repression of all freedom of speech, aye, even freedom of conscience. Further, the Act declares punishable any attempt at intimidation or annoyance to any person with a view to extortion. This is a very proper provision, but the Penal Code is sufficient for the purpose. We consider it simply surplusage, and would not have objected to it, if the law had not changed the *modus operandi*. There will be no judicial trial for this offence, but an executive enquiry and order. Suppose an influential local magnate or a powerful native chief did not like certain criticisms of a vernacular paper, he might prefer a change of "intimidation or annoyance with a view to extortion"; if a judicial trial had been provided, there would not have been the least objection, but the local officer might be prejudiced against the particular writer, or might consider it a matter of policy to humour the man of influence, and the poor writer may be sacrificed. We do not say that such a thing will occur, but who knows that it may occur, and in a matter of this kind the legislature ought to take the utmost precaution to prevent the possibility of injustice, and that precaution in our humble opinion means the vesting the judicial tribunals with necessary powers. What greater compliment could be paid to the British Government than that its courts command such confidence of the community, and it cannot but be a matter of the deepest regret that it should itself by capricious legislation show a want of confidence in those courts. And lastly the Act declares it penal to initimidate or annoy a public servant in the discharge of his public functions. The Penal Code also provides for such an offence. The provision runs as follows:

"Whoever holds out any threat of injury to any public servant, or to any person in whom he believes that public servant to be interested, with the purpose of inducing that public servant to do any act, or to forbear or delay to do any act connected with the exercise of the public functions of such public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both."

Why then suspend the operation of the general

law of the country as regards the conductors of the vernacular papers, and take away the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts in that respect? This is what we cannot comprehend. If the Government had thought that the safety of the empire required that the preaching of sedition should be stopped with a high hand, that would have been intelligible, though even in that case no man in our humble opinion should be condemned and punished without a fair and full trial by a Court of Justice. This is the principle of the British constitution, which we cannot admire too highly. Could a more diabolical offence have been committed than the assassination of Lord Mayo by Shere Ali. Our Government would have been perfectly justified if it had decapitated him then and there. An oriental despot would have done that and perhaps much more. He would not have hesitated to deport the assassin's family from the country. But our Government conforms to its own laws. The murderer of Lord Mayo was brought down to Calcutta, tried by the highest tribunal in the country, defended by an *amicus curæ*, convicted by a jury, and then sentenced to be hanged. It is this inviolability of, this equality before, the law, which constitutes the real power of the English in the East. We feel distressed that the Government should depart from its noble path of justice dispensed through the medium of a regularly constituted tribunal for any reason whatever. But if the "supreme requirement of the State," to quote Lord Lytton, did require a departure from its usual and honored practice, surely it could not be contended that the attempt to "excite antipathy between persons of different races and religions," or to cause intimidation and annoyance to a private individual or public servant, however reprehensible in itself, comes under the category of attempts to "excite disaffection to the Government," and calls for exceptional legislation. This part of the law is wholly incomprehensible and altogether incompatible with the liberty of the Press. We have every reason to hope and believe that the law will be worked in a spirit different from the letter of it, but we are constrained to say that the details of the law are not in consonance with the policy advocated in the Council or with the profession upon which it was based.

SIR EDWARD BAYLEY.

AFTER a service of thirty-five years Sir Edward Bayley leaves these shores at the end of this month. For nearly eighty years his family, as he said at the farewell dinner given to him by His Excellency the Viceroy on the 12th instant, has been connected with India. His uncle, Mr. Butterworth Bayley, was *pro tem* Governor General of India, and for many years a Director, and twice Chairman of the East India Company. By marriage he is allied with one of the most illustrious Indian governing families, we mean the Metcalfes. At the banquet which the Viceroy gave in his honor His Excellency delivered a glowing eulogy upon him. His Excellency said, "Sir Edward Bayley, was distinguished as a boy at Haileybury, not only for his scholarship, but also for those social amenities and singularly charming personal qualities which have since won for him the unreserved respect and cordial affection of all with whom he has come into personal contact in the long course of his Indian life." Sir Edward came to India in 1842, and after seven years' service he was placed in independent charge of Guzerat. In recognition of his services in Guzerat he was transferred in 1849 to the Under-Secretaryship in the Foreign Department, then under Sir Henry Elliott. Referring to this appointment Lord Lytton said, "between the Under-Secretary and his chief there was a felicitous community of tastes; and to this period of his career, perhaps, I may trace the foundation of that rare knowledge of Eastern numismatics which has given to my Hon'ble friend a European, as well as an Indian, reputation." Sir Edward next served at Delhi, of the history and antiquities of which he has been a valuable expounder. "About the time of which I am speaking," said Lord Lytton, "he appears to have found in connection with Delhi an attraction which can by no means be classed in the category of antiquities; and his enthusiasm was so well directed to the acquisition of this attractive object of it, that it resulted in his union with the daughter of Sir Thomas Metcalfe, who was for many years our Political Resident at Delhi. For the result of that event I think we have all cause to be grateful: for it has added to our society elements of grace and beauty, of social charm and bright intelligence, whose gracious presences have long gladdened us, and will be long regretfully recalled." We next find Sir Edward in the midst of the hurricane of the Sepoy Revolt. As Sir Edward said in his reply to the Vice-Regal address, "that was, indeed, a time of trial to them, the cruel force of which, few except those who were eye-witnesses can rightly appreciate. As many as proved themselves true and loyal, were indeed tried in the fire. I have happily not a few Native friends of those days who still survive. I can sincerely say that, perhaps, the saddest feature of my approaching departure from India is the knowledge that their friendship must almost be, for all practical purposes, placed in abeyance." Sir Edward afterwards became Judge of Goruckpore, and after temporarily serving as Foreign Secretary acted for ten years as Home Secretary, and five years ago he was elevated to the Supreme Council. Sir Edward from his association with Sir Henry Elliott imbibed a taste for oriental literature and antiquarian researches, which he has always nursed with a most creditable zeal. He was one of the main pillars of the Asiatic Society. He used to take a lively interest in the Calcutta University. A man of culture he has been a consistent advocate of the spread of intellectual culture amongst the Indians. Sir Edward has, however, been neither a brilliant nor a large-hearted man. He is a plodding, hard-working man, with great knowledge and varied information, and with much grace of manner, but unfortunately not gifted with the power of striking out original paths or taking broad views of things. He is a conservative to the back-bone, and having been nurtured in the North West imbibed the narrow-minded prejudices of that half-illumined province, which he could not shake off even in Calcutta. This weakness of his came out prominently in his controversy with Pundit Eswar Chunder Vydiasagur on the Shoe question at the Asiatic Society. He is gentle, polite, and dignified, but there is a cold reserve about him, which those not within his narrow circle could not easily penetrate into. He was a good old Civilian of the North West but not of the Bengal type. We believe that if in his early days his lot had been cast in Bengal, his association with men like Sir Frederic Halliday, Sir John Peter Grant, Sir Cecil Beadon, Sir Henry Ricketts, Sir William Grey, Mr. J. R. Colvin, Mr. Samuells and the like, would have given a different cast to his mind and sympathies. At the same time we must confess that no one could know Sir Edward Bayley without respecting his character, and admiring his indefatigable industry, richly stored mind, and single-minded devotion to literature and science.

MR. GEORGE WATT, M.B., C.M., F. L. S. AGAIN.

IN another column we publish a long bill of indictment against us. The sins of omission and commission with which we are charged are serious, and we regret we must plead guilty to some of them. For instance, we must at once admit that we have been very careless. Had we been otherwise, we would not have brought on us a discussion which has already, in two former issues, taken up seven columns of our space, and in this issue engrosses eight more, three of them in very small type. It has also brought on us an amount of vituperation and bad language, which no decently conducted literary paper would have for a moment tolerated; and, indeed, the author of them would have never ventured to indulge in them had he occasion to write to the *Athenæum*, the *Academy*, the *Examiner* or the *Saturday Review*. He seems, however, to think that literary amenities were not intended to be observed when engaged in discussion with black men; and, for the sake of his position in the Educational Service, we are obliged to tolerate his foul pen. Had we disposed of our notice of his book in three lines, saying it was the best on earth, the ninth wonder, or some such thing, our readers would not have been subjected to the infliction of wading through so many columns of unreadable matter. Then we have been unpardonably careless in copying the name of the author. It was not "Mr. Watts" we wrote about, but Mr. George Watt, M.B., C.M., F. L. S., professor of Botany in the Hooghly College, author of "First Step in Botany," and of "Elementary Lessons in Botany for General Readers." We have been charged also with neglecting the author's "proper designation;" and we must confess our ignorance in the matter. We were under the impression that for an English or Scotch (we are thus particular to avoid further complications) gentleman the ordinary designation is Mr., or Esq. when the name is put on the envelope of a letter; and diligent enquiry has not helped us to any thing better. A wag at our elbow, looking at the letters M. B. after the name on the cover of the "First Step in Botany," suggests that we should call the author a "Doctor," and we would have gladly adopted the suggestion; but we apprehend we shall thereby lay ourselves open to the charge of indulging in irony. Neither by law nor by usage is a *Batchelor in Medicine* entitled to the designation of Doctor, and Mr. George Watt, M. B., C. M., F. L. S. would for certain resent, if we applied it to him. Doubtless, practising physicians, quacks, and even apothecaries who physic people but have not earned the M. D. degree are, by courtesy, called "Doctors," as Subs are, by friends, sometimes called "Captains," but we could not effectually appeal to the practice for our justification, if we were charged with being ironical. In this difficulty we have adopted the safest course of copying the name and the designations as given on the title-page of Mr. George Watt, M. B., C. M., F. L. S.'s books, and we hope that will satisfy him. We would have done so before, but we did not think that the fact of one's paying his subscription to the Linnæan Society was one of such importance as to necessitate its being recounted at every turn. However *de gustibus non est disputandum*.

We have yet another declaration to make. We have not the shadow of a wish to rob any person of his good name, or interfere with the sale of any book, unless it be Bradlaugh and Besant's "Fruits of Philosophy," or the "Priest in Absolution." We can gain nothing by the robbery, and we do not at all relish the idea of an action for libel or for damages. In the discharge of our duty as conductors of a newspaper we are however bound to give our opinion on all public questions, as well as on new books, and if in so doing we tread on any body's corns, the fault is inherent in our duty, and cannot be avoided. We wish we could avoid the evil, but if we did, our readers will find fault with us, and we are particularly anxious to do our duty by them.

Mr. Watt, M B., C. M., F. L. S., notwithstanding his outbursts of vituperative malevolence, is, in his second para, somewhat amusing. He appears to arrogate to himself the position of judge pronouncing judgment in favour of his own cause, and attempts to cover us with ridicule to save his position. "This is an ingenious but not a very ingenuous mode of defence." (We quote this sentence from memory, and make a present of it to him to be used when occasion serves, in the same way in which he has so adroitly used so many others from our last two articles.) We declined to point out ALL the borrowed passages, for we had no space to spare for them, and still decline to do so. No critic is bound to do so, and we must assert our privilege in that respect. As for the "consideration," we think, we shall have a right to insist on it, when Mr. Watt, M., B. C. M., F. L. S. applies to us to revise his book. To supply materials for the purpose in the form of an article in this paper is really inconvenient, though not in the sense in which our author is disposed to take it. We gave two examples in our last, not because we had no more to give, but because we could not smother our paper under the leaden weight of our author's Bengali. We do not think our readers were dissatisfied with the paucity

of our samples, but supposing, for the sake of Mr. George Watt, M.B., C.M., F. L. S. that they were, we will supply a few more, taken quite at random.

Silver's Outlines, p. 73.

In describing the position of a flower, it is held so that the bract is next the person examining, and the stem farthest from him—in other words, the bract is anterior, the stem is posterior; but it often happens that the bract is placed horizontally on the plant, so that the part of the flower next it would be called inferior instead of anterior; and the part farthest from it, superior instead of posterior. In these two sets of terms, therefore, *superior* may be substituted for *posterior*, and *inferior* for *anterior*. From this it will be seen that the odd *bract* will be anterior, the *odd sepal* posterior; the *odd petal* anterior, the *odd stamen* posterior, and the *odd pistil* anterior in the normal condition of the flower.

Mr. Watt's First Step, p. 198.

১৪১। কোন পুষ্পের বর্ণনা করিতে হইলে অনুমান করিতে হইবে যে উহা পর্য্যবেক্ষক কর্ত্তৃক এরূপে ধৃত হইয়াছে যে পুষ্পোৎপাদক পত্রের অগ্রভাগটি তাঁহার দিগে আছে। এ অবস্থায় পত্র পুরোবর্ত্তি ও কাণ্ড পশ্চাদ্বর্ত্তী হয় (S, ১৬২ চিত্র)। আর যদি পত্রটি পুষ্পের নীচে থাকে তবে পুষ্পের সহিত উহার নীচে সম্বন্ধ এবং পুষ্পাংশগুলির উচ্চ সম্বন্ধ থাকা বলা যায়। পুরোবর্ত্তী ও নীচ এই দুই শব্দ পুষ্প সম্বন্ধে পুষ্পোৎপাদক পত্রের সম্ভাবিত স্থান জ্ঞাপক। ১৬২ চিত্রে উহা পুরোবর্ত্তি থাকা দর্শিত হইল। ঐ স্থলে বিযুক্ত বহিশ্ছদটি পশ্চাদ্বর্ত্তি ও বিযুক্ত পাবড়িটি পুরোবর্ত্তি। এই একোত্তর ক্রম অবলোকন করা আবশ্যক কারণ এতদ্দ্বারা প্রমাণ হইতেছে যে পুষ্পাংশগুলি পরিবর্ত্তিত পত্র মাত্র, তদ্ভিন্ন ইহা দ্বারা দৃষ্টি মাত্র কোন কোন পুষ্পকে পৃথক্ করা যাইতে পারে। শিম কুলের বড় বিযুক্ত পাবড়িটি পশ্চাদ্বর্ত্তি এবং বন্য গোলাবের বিযুক্ত পাবড়িটি পুরোবর্ত্তি।

Silver's Outlines, p. 113.

As a consequence of the fertilization of the ovules by the pollen, a series of changes is set up, ending in the conversion of the ovule into the seed, which, along with its covering, constitutes the fruit. As a rule, the outer organs of the flower fall off immediately after fecundation; sometimes, however, the calyx remains, and forms a part of the fruit. The style and stigma generally disappear also, but in some instances, as in the Gooseberry, the style persists, and forms what is called the beak or tail of the fruit. If the calyx persist, it may either be in a loose condition, as in the *Labiatæ*, where it is inferior, or being superior, may constitute one of the coverings of the fruit, as in the *apple*, &c.

Mr. Watt's First Step, p. 279.

২৪৩। উভয় কেশরের সংযোগ বশতঃ কতকগুলি পরিবর্ত্তন ঘটিয়া ডিম্বকগুলি বীজরূপে ও গর্ভকেশর ফলরূপে পরিণত হয়। সামান্য নিয়ম এই যে বীযোৎপাদন হইলে পুষ্পের বহিরিন্দ্রিয় গুলির রক্ষাকার্য্যের সমাপ্তি হওয়ায় তাহারা পতিত হয়। কোন কোন সময়ে বহিরাবরণ বর্ত্তমান থাকে এবং ফল নির্ম্মাণে প্রযুক্ত হয়। আশয় ও আশয়দণ্ডও ক্রমশঃ অদৃশ্য হয়, কিন্তু কোন কোন স্থলে আশয়দণ্ড বর্ত্তমান থাকে। উহা আম্রফলের উপরিভাগে একটি কোণ বা অস্ত্র প্রস্তুত করে এবং তাহাকে চোঁট (বিক) কহে। ডিম্বকগুলির উৎপাদন এবং যাবৎ তাহারা পরাগ প্রাপ্ত হইয়া বীজরূপে পরিণত না হয় তাবৎ তাহারদিগের আবরণ ও রক্ষা করাই ডিম্বকোষের উদ্দেশ্য॥

Silvers' Outlines, p. 75.

To denote a plant which has both male and female flowers on the same individual, as in the Oak, Birch, &c., the term Monæcious is used; but if they exist on different plants, as in the Willow, the flowers are said to be Diæcious; while if both male, female, and hermaphrodite flowers occur on one plant, it is said to be Polygamous. Occasionally neuter flowers, or such as have no sexual organs, occur, as in outer whorls of the Capitula of some Compositæ.

Mr. Watt's First Step, p. 203.

১৫৩। কখন এরূপ ঘটে যে এক গাছের একটি পুষ্প কৈশরিক এবং আর একটি স্ত্রৈণ-কৈশরিক, এমত অবস্থা হইলে গাছটিকে দ্বিলিঙ্গভাক্ (মোনেসাস্) কহে। যদি এক গাছের সমস্ত পুষ্প কৈশরিক এবং ঐরূপ আর একটি গাছের সমস্ত পুষ্প স্ত্রৈণ-কৈশরিক হয়, তবে সে গাছকে একলিঙ্গভাক্ (ডিয়েসাস্) কহে। প্রথমের উদাহরন কাঁকুড় ও ভেরেণ্ডা গাছ এবং দ্বিতীয়ের উদাহরণ তঁত গাছ।

Compare also Silver, pp. 74, 85, 86, 90, 94, 92, 95, 115 *et seq.* paras 2, 3, and 4, and 281, with Mr. Watt's pp. 202, 212, 214, 216, 219, 283, and 281. The matter and arrangement of pp. 202 *et seq.* for several pages are very much like what we find in Silver from page 75 onwards. We do not like to quote the passages, as such of our readers as are curious in the matter can compare them, and to those who are not, they can be of but little use. To explain away the two passages we quoted in our last Mr. George Watt, M. B., C. M., F. L. S., has paraded in his letter what he calls their "original" English from his unpublished MS., but we have to deal with what is in type before us, and not what is in his desk. Besides, it is easy enough to translate the same Bengali passage in half a dozen different ways without laying oneself open to a charge of mistranslation, and thereby to throw dust on the eyes of English readers. He "freely admits" however, that "there are coincidences between those passages" (the two cited by us from his book and those we cited from Silver's *Outlines*,) and adds: "probably they are to be explained by the fact that Dr. Silver and I studied under the same master—Dr. Dickie of Aberdeen. At all events I did not consult Dr. Silver's work in writing my *First Step*." We were not aware that Dr. Silver and Mr. George Watt, M. B., C.M., F.L.S. were fellow-students under the same master. Now that we know it and have the assurance of the latter gentleman that he did not consult the work of the former, we are obliged to assume the numerous "coincidences" to be due to the two pupils having taken notes at the same time from the lectures of one master, and elaborating their works therefrom,—*i. e.* accept the plea of accidental coincidence. From a necessarily cursory glance we find Plates Nos. 98, ter and 270 of Balfour, Nos. 10, 144, 149, 172, 78, 79, 86, 87 and 95 of Silver correspond with our author's Nos. 56 B, 155, 46, 55c., 57, 78, 180, 181, 190, 191 and 216; and these, with the assurance of the author before us we must believe to be reproductions of the master's illustrations, and therefore alike. If they are in some cases drawn on exactly the same scale, and have the same amount and style of shading, we must assume one or other of the many possibilities in the chapter of accidents, to be the cause. We repudiate, however, the doctrine of a later author using identically the same sentences which his predecessor has done, and nevertheless claiming originality, and denying the charge of borrowing without acknowledgment on the plea of the facts described being common to science. Even Sir Fretful never thought of such a plea, and we can not tolerate it even at the risk of being accused of "want of understanding" and "want of candour." Perhaps the plea would hold as regards definitions, but the passages quoted are descriptive and not definitions. "Let the galled jade wince, our withers are unwrung."

As regards scientific errors, which Mr. George Watt M.B., C.M., F.L.S., in the fullness of knowledge, hurls on our devoted heads, we shall say but little, seeing that we have already dipped into the third column. "The radish is not an underground stem, but a root," says our author; but he condescendingly adds that according to Dr. Silver "some botanists take it to be an underground stem." The said botanists may be sneered at by marks of quotation, but there they are on our side, and if our author, instead of poking into Dr. Sach's *Lehrbuch*, will cut across a radish, he will find, that the arrangement of its layers and medulary rays corresponds exactly with that of stems of woody trees. But we forget. The Professor tells us "there is no real distinction between stems and roots," and the different chapters and heads he has devoted to them in his books, and the learned lucubrations he has indulged in on the different kinds of roots, are, we presume, merely ornamental.

The next item in the bill of indictment is a serious one. We have been accused of interpolating the word *alone* in the sentence "the end of the root *alone* has the power of absorbing fluids." "Garbling" is certainly a nasty trick, and if we were guilty of it we would fitly deserve the abuse that has been heaped on us. But the fact is, the afflatus of science prevents some people from stooping to small things, and spectres are conjured up from mere nothing. The sentence quoted, is our translation of the author's Bengali words: মূলের অন্ত্যভাগেরই রসাকর্ষণের শক্তি আছে। (p. 32); and no one who knows the meaning of ই after অন্ত্যভাগের would find it difficult to make out whence the *alone* comes. Mr. George Watt, M.B., C.M., F.L.S., is, we presume, familiar with the Bengali language, but at any rate as an English, or Scotch, gentleman he cannot be ignorant that deliberately bringing a false charge implies an amount of moral obliquity which is not generally tolerated in civilized society. Besides, the *alone*, as shown above, being unavoidable, what becomes of the power of absorption of leaves in a normal state? The author has himself admitted the existence of that power in his *Elementary Lessons*, so he must now either admit the statement in the *First Step* to be wrong, or that in the *Elementary Lessons* to be mere surplusage. We leave him to select which horn of the dilemma he likes best. As for the quibble about the abnormal state of cut stems, it was the last straw that could help him. He has yet to prove that cuttings and grafted surfaces absorb fluids by capillary attraction, and not according to the laws of osmose. His deal board may absorb water, but it does not thrive on it, whereas cuttings thrive and bear leaves even before any rootlet is formed. In the graft the sap passes from the stem of one plant into that of another without the intervention of roots. The inner surface of the bark, in grafting by eyes, does the same. So much for the "substance in the shadow" which we could not grasp.

"That organ which first comes out is the root," says Mr. George Watt, M.B., C.M., F. L. S., but in the cocoanut the shoot comes *out* first, and the root long after. This is an awkard pass to get over, and so we are referred to p. 641 of Dr. Balfour's book, and the book ends at p. 621, the rest being devoted to an alphabitical Index. The quotation given from the book comes from another part, and does not in the least apply to cocoanut.

The Shimul thorn we threw out in our first article still sticks in the throat of Mr. George Watt, M.B., C. M. F. L. S. The remedy for it (frank acknowledgement of error) was ready at hand, but he would not accept it. The Holloway Pill he has now resorted to, is, that we had argued from our limited knowledge of our district, whereas he had done so from an extended survey "from China to Peru" or something like it. Unfortunately for him, he had selected his audience in Bengal, and adopted the Bengali language for the medium of his lectures, and as he did not tell his audience of his all-grasping survey, they thought he was talking of their own country. Then he adds, "when I said, the shimul sheds its leaves, so that its large red and showy flowers may be seen at a distance,' I did not necessarily state a purpose, the words are equally intelligible as stating a consequence." This is an equivoque with a vengeance; but it is the only weapon in the hands of a certain class of persons who have to cover their retreat from an untenable position. A straight-forward man would have at once said what he really meant by his words; but our author halts midway, by saying the words "may" mean this as well as something else. But he could not do otherwise. If he had said he meant "a purpose," he would have been called upon to prove why the leaves fell in November, and left the tree bare till April when the occasion for fertilization arose in the middle of February, and terminated by the end of that month. The "consequence" horn of the alternative would drive the author to the necessity of explaining why should the crows and minas alone enjoy the sight of the red flowers, and why should the remark be made with reference to cross-fertilization. "Truth has as many enemies as a herring in shoal water. But in argument his worst and subtlest is Equivoque," sheltered by the halo of great names. In our last article

we gave full credit to Mr. George Watt, M. B., C. M., F. L. S. for not stooping so low in scurrility as the Yankee author, a sample of whose bilious outpourings we quoted; but the temptation of the "priggish pedantry" we placed before him was too strong, and he has succumbed. He is welcome now to the highest honors of his Trans-Atlantic confrere, and "First Class" in—in—in unparliamentary language. "Once bitten by the mad dog Equivoque, nothing but death will cure a man," says Mr. Charles Reade, and he is right.

Our author is satisfied with our quotation from Balfour, regarding the defoliation of trees in winter, but tauntingly asks us to name the author who has used the word "hibernation" to express the occurrence. We do not care to stoop to the trouble of finding out the reference for him. If he will refer to any school dictionary, he will find the meaning of the words, and if that wont help him to understand it, nothing will.

The mare's nest in which he has fallen about "universal law of nature." "the only law of nature," "the invariable law of nature," is also one out of which no outsider can help him. It is an evolution from his own fertile mind, and can be swallowed up, like the cobweb, by its own creator. We did not any where say that the words were his; we quoted his own words and they left us no alteranative but to assume what he meant by what we said. His words are "the seeds obtained from self-fertilized fruits are sickly, and this, together with the efforts to ensure cross-fertilization, *points to cross-fertilization, and not self-fertilization, as the law of nature.*" Let the reader mark the Italics, which are the author's and not our own, and say whether the sentence means a universal law, or a partial one applicable in some cases, but not in all. It is much more graceful, at least to our thinking, to walk straight out of an untenable position, than to wriggle out of it, talking mud, and spattering mud.

But we have already far exceeded our limits for an article of this nature, and must here stop; adding only that if in future Mr. George Watt, M.B., C.M., F.L.S., should have occasion to honor us or any other newspaper with a letter, he would do well directly to charge the editor who is responsible for all the editorials that appear in his paper, and not to attribute the authorship of particular articles to particular individuals with whom he may be in enmity. The attempt to have his fling at persons who cannot have an opportunity of paying him in his own coin of personal invectives and "insinivations" betrays a weakness which, for his sake, we do not choose to characterise. We are perfectly indifferent as to who the person may be who wrote to him a letter, and Mr. George Watt, M.B., C.M., F.L.S. sent a "rejoinder" (!!!) not a reply, and that man did not send "a reply." Nor do we wish to know, why, if he was "fully satisfied with the official reason which withheld the rejoinder," he complained of it in his first letter. We have only to tell him that we have means of collecting information on many matters which are not published, and we use them in the best way we like. We do not as a rule tell out who it is who brings us informations; but for the nonce, just to remove the anxiety of a good man floundering in doubts and difficulties, we shall in an aside tell it to him. It is the crow on the plantain tree which offended him so much.

The discussion should here drop. For the last time we say we cannot spare space for such a discussion.

CANNING THE JUST.

A MOST interesting ceremony was held on the Maidan on Monday last under the auspices of His Excellency the Viceroy, for the unveiling of the memorial Statue of Canning the Just. The *elite* of the European and Native communities were present; the troops were drawn out and salutes were fired to give *eclat* to the occasion; His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, as President of the Committee, opened the ceremony by asking His Excellency the Viceroy to unveil the Statue, and His Excellency in preforming this act of grace delivered a glowing, eloquent and effective address. We give below both the speeches. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor said:

"The delay has not arisen from neglect or want of interest on the part of the Committee, but from causes altogether beyond their control. The cost of the statue was remitted to England shortly after Lord Canning's death, and the work was placed in the hands of the eminent sculptor Mr. Foley. Unfortunately, when but little progress had been made in the work, Mr. Foley received the commands of Her Majesty to undertake other important work, and the order of the Committee was necessarily held in abeyance. Mr. Foley, when he was able to give attention to the work, was in bad health, and unfortunately died before he was able to complete it. At his request the work of completion was left in the hands of Mr. Brock, his assistant: and the patience of the subscribers has been rewarded by a statue which will be an ornament to the capital of India, and which is eminently typical of the calmness and dignity of the statesman whose rule over India it is intended to commemorate. But on the whole perhaps, it is not to be regretted that the delay has occured, since the healing influence of time on wounds opened during Lord Canning's administration has fostered and strengthened the public appreciation of the man we wish to honour.

India has passed, since Lord Canning assumed the government of the country, through a baptism of blood into an era of progress, prosperity, peace and good will; and there will be now found few who will dare to deny that the result is due to the courageous and passionless justice of Lord Canning, who, firmly resisting the temper of the times and the natural calmour of angry men, determined that the mutiny of the soldiery should not be turned into a war of races by indiscriminate vengence.

The very charges brought against him at the time are the highest testimony to the nobleness of his nature. The name of Clemency Canning, which was attached to him as a stigma by unthinking men, is now by the light of history held to be a title of honour. His was not the clemency of fear, or of hesitation, or of sentiment; but clemency founded on justice on courage, and foresightedness. It remains for me to ask your Excellency to unveil the statue of one of whom it has been well said by a former colleague and friend, who knew perhaps better than any one else the working of his mind and the motives of his conduct, that he had "done much to restore and, better still, to justify, our dominion in the East, who, at a time when it was sadly needed, has exhibited to India and the world some of the finest virtues of the English character, and in doing so had shed new lustre on the English name (applause.)

His Excellency the Viceroy spoke to the following effect:

Your Honor and Gentlemen,—I need hardly assure you that I esteem it a very high privilege to have been asked to unveil this statue.

Just sixteen years ago, on the 25th February, 1862, the inhabitants of Calcutta assembled to do honor to the great statesman who was then about to leave them, and, in honouring him, they added to the annals, as you have now added to the monuments, of this city, a record of their feelings which is highly honorable to their own character. The memorial then adopted ended with the following words: "Safe may you return to your native land; the good wishes of all attend you! In that far land of the West, if justice and humanity be ever honored, you cannot but hold a most distinguished place."

Gentlemen those heartfelt wishes were not destined to receive complete fulfilment. Even while they found utterance in the words I have just re-called to your recollection, Lord Canning was smitten with that illness which, four months later, joined his honored ashes to Thiers, who have found their fit resting-place in the fane which a people's voice has dedicated to the deathless memory of its dead heroes. Nor, in looking at the names of the Committee who were entrusted with the duty of procuring the statute I am this day charged to unveil, can I fail to observe with sadness how busy death has been among their number. Of the European gentlemen who sat on the Committee, two only remain among us; one I am thankful to say, being my honored and valued friend, your President, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Of the native noblemen, and gentlemen but three or four are left; and nearly all of Lord Canning's contemporaries in this country are now replaced by a younger generation, to whom his name is a social memory or a national tradition, rather than a living element in their personal existence.

But, Gentlemen, if there be much that is said in this retrospect, still, as you, Sir, have reminded us, the sixteen years which have elapsed since the Calcutta public and more specially the native community of this city, determined to erect the present memorial of their departing ruler, have not been without some counterveiling advantages. We are enabled, by this lapse of time, to appreciate the great personal qualities of Lord Canning, and to measure the effects of his public actions, in the calm atmosphere of historical retrospect; undisturbed by the fierce clamour, the bitter detraction, and the almost savage partisanship which received an abnormal development from the events of 1857. That clamour, that detraction, that partizanship, little as he allowed them to influence the serenity of his steadfast and staresman-like attitude, could not fail to darken the light in which he laboured, to embitter the devoted performance of his anxious task, to intensify the difficulties of his rule, and to disturb the judgment of its contemporary critics. Now, it is not my intention nor is this the time or place, to follow the career of Lord Canning through those grievous, but glorious, events, which have given to the earlier half of his administration, their unapproached importance in the history of British India. The stormy darkness of those days is happily passed away; but the firmness, the justice, the "clemency," of Lord Canning, the unwavering fortitude of the heroic officers (both civil and military), who assisted him to save and heal this Empire, "the many-a light that out of the darkness leapt, and shone in the sudden making of splendid names,"—all these are now imperishable parts of the English story.

Gentlemen, it was Lord Canning's arduous task to quell the most formidable rising ever known against the English power in India. It is his lasting glory to have done this, without dishonoring those principles of justice and mercy on which our rule is built, and without leaving behind him the baneful seeds of disaffection. To carry out with success such a task as this, required qualities not often found in combination. It required the quickness, courage, and endurance of the soldier; together with the forsight, the imaginative sympathy, the exalted tolerance, of the statesman. All these qualities Lord Canning possessed in an eminent degree; and, with them, nature had associated in the character of that great man, a simplicity of purpose, and an utter absence of all self-seeking, which were peculiarly his own. Now, to such a man, with such a task, one might have expected that the sympathy and confidence of his own countrymen, whose peril in some measure, and whose anxieties in an unequalled measure, he surely shared, would have been ungrudgingly, loyally, and devotedly given. And so, no doubt, they *were* given by those whom his labours had brought into immediate contact with his character. But their voices, if we may judge from the evidence of contemporary journals, were drowned in the storm of calumny that pursued him. By a portion of his own countrymen, not probably the largest or the wisest, but certainly the noisiest portion, (men, it must, in justice to them, be remembered, whose tenderest sympathies had, indeed, been intolerably outraged by the sufferings and indignities of those dear to them), Lord Canning was attacked with a virulence to which, in this season of calm weather, we are happily strangers, and which now seems almost incomprehensible. They clamoured and petitioned for his recall; they derided him for his clemency; they urged to him, under pain of impeachment, and even revolution, measures of violent and impossible retaliation; and thus, they not only added immeasurably to the political difficulties of his position, but increased a thousand-fold the burthen of anxiety and sadness already laid upon him. The tribunal of History, however, reverses many a popular verdict. No one here, or elsewhere, will now dispute the assertion of my hon'ble friend Mr. Eden, that the clemency for which Lord Canning was then ridiculed and denounced is now his chiefest glory. The breadth of view which enabled him, "with Palinure's unaltered mood," to overlook the angry resentments of the present, in the deeper based conciliation of the future, and his resolute determination to preserve his countrymen from their worst and most unreasoning selves, which were then a stumbling-block and an offence to them, are now acknowledged as indisputable claims to their unending gratitude. No, Gentlemen, the *vox populi* is not necessarily nor even generally, the *vox Dei*. It is quite as likely to be the *vox diaboli*. Lord Canning knew its value and went on his uncheered, solitary way, resolute and self-possessed; not, indeed, unheeding the clamour of the multitude, for that was impossible, but unswayed by its violence, uninfluenced by its threats, unstung by its insults, in well-founded faith that time and reason would do their work, and eventually prove his best and all-sufficient justification.

Gentlemen there is an old Fairy tale which most of us have probably read in our childhood and which has in it a moral that deserves to be remembered. The hero of this story, in order to liberate some imprisoned Princess, is called upon to ascend to the summit of a haunted mountain, which the hostility of supernatural powers has rendered, inaccessible to human enterprize. Others, before him, have in vain essayed this quest. Prematurely deterred by the terrors they encountered, they have abandoned their purpose, but not with impunity; for their bodies, turned to stones, remain along the road,—the monumental records of their failure. On this unaccompanied enterprise the adventurer meets with no visible opponent; no fiery dragon, or armed giant contests his passage. But he is pursued at every step and at every turn, from stage to stage of his discouraged progress, by the angry voices of innumerable unseen critics and advisers; voices of dissuasion and reproach, voices of denunciation and menace. The less he heeds them, the louder and fiercer grow the voices: but, at last, the successful traveller achieves his undertaking, by stuffing his ears with cotton; and thus enabling himself to concentrate his attention on the solitary upward path he is treading, uninfluenced by those swarming and intimidating cries—those croakings and howlings—which, after all, have no visible sources, or palpable embodiment. I say that this story is not without a moral. To discriminate between the ephemeral frenzies of popular clamour, or personal prejudice, and the fixed and well-considered expression of social wants and national feelings, is one of the most difficult tasks of those who are called upon to rule. To be influenced by the former is unworthy weakness; to disregard the latter is unstatesmanlike obtusity. Lord Canning's course was equally removed from the one, as from the other, extreme.

Well, again, there is another advantage in our distant standpoint. It enables us to judge by their results of the different measures which marked Lord Canning's administration. To his recognition of the right of adoption by native chiefs, to his restoration of the confiscated estates in Oudh, to his warm appreciation of many loyal and friendly acts on the part of natives of distinction, we assuredly owe the real confidence and good will with which, despite the assertion of our ill-wishers, the suzeraiuty of the Empress is, now, throughout India, regarded. Then, too, it was Lord Canning who gave the first practical form and impulse to a policy which we hope to see yet more fully developed; the policy of calling to our councils representative native gentlemen of intelligence and position, and of giving to such gentlemen, residing on their own estates magisterial powers and duties, with a large share in the administration of the Empire. Lord Canning's initiation of this policy has, in the rapid march of events rather dropped out of sight, and out of mind; but how it was regarded at the time may best be judged by an extract I shall ask leave to read you, from a speech made at the meeting to which I have referred. "Baboo Rama Pershad Roy, afterwards elevated to the Bench of the High Court, was one of the most cultivated native gentlemen of his day. He said on that occasion,—"The culminating measure of Lord Canning's administration, to which I would draw your attention, has been the recognition of the *national* policy. Lord William Bentinck, in 1829, laid the foundation of that policy, but it was left to Lord Canning's administration to carry it out. He has introduced a system of self-government by investing landholders and other respectable men, without distinction of country; or creed, with responsible power, to be exercised for the benefit of the country; and he has allowed the natives, alike with the Europeans, a share in the highest offices of the State to which human ambition can aspire. Would our ancestors believe were it possible for them to hear of what we see, that a Rajah Dinkur Rao and a Rajah Pertab Chunder Sing sit with the British Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor in the Councils of the Empire, and advise these high

dignitaries as to what measures would be for the benefit of the country. It is by these and similar measures that Lord Canning has secured, for the Government of Her Majesty the Queen, the tranquillity, contentment, good-will, and attachment, of all India" (applause).

These, Gentlemen, were the sentiments of the most enlightened natives of sixteen years ago. It is neither to be wondered at, nor to be deplored, if native public opinion has since then advanced, with the advancing progress, and increasing unity, of the Empire; and is no longer contented with what was then regarded as a great concession. How best to carry out the spirit of Lord Canning's policy on this subject, is a matter which has had the ceaseless and earnest consideration of myself and my Council. I look upon the increased employment of native agency in the service of the State as a question of great and pressing importance.

There are few questions to which of late, notwithstanding the calamities and anxieties of the last two years, my own attention, and that of my most experienced colleagues, has been more carefully and constantly directed. I can conscientiously assert that the early and comprehensive settlement of this great question, in a manner just and satisfactory to the rights and interests of all concerned, is one of the most cherished objects of the present administration. But, while we are bent on meeting the wishes of the native community, as far as we can reasonably and properly do so, the safety of the Empire must always be our first consideration; and nothing will induce us to take a step beyond what we deem consistent with that supreme requirement.

Time would fail me to dwell upon other measures of Lord Canning's policy, which were, when first discussed, the subjects of most vehement praise and blame. It is not without a warning, that we now read of the immense importance attached by Indian politicians sixteen years ago to such measures as the redemption of the land-tax, and the sale of waste lands in fee-simple: for some of the measures which all parties regard to-day as measures of burning importance may similarly, perhaps, be found a few years hence, in the same "wallet" to which Time has already consigned these "alms for Oblivion." None the less, should we act on the same motives, and be inspired by the same spirit, which guided Lord Canning's endeavours, to seek to develop the resources, and remove restrictions on the enterprise of the country; thus, at least, deserving, if we cannot command, success.

Gentlemen, I recognise, I appreciate, and I share, the feelings which have induced you to add to the noble group of monumental statues already possessed by Calcutta, the effigy of that statesman, who was the last Governor-General of the Company and the first Viceroy of the Queen. For I am persuaded that, throughout the long list of heroes and statesmen, whose fame has sprung into splendor from the clash of antagonistic elements in Indian life, there is no name more deserving of the gratitude and reverence of the people of this country than the name of CHARLES, EARL CANNING (applause).

His Excellency then pulled a string placed conveniently at hand, and the temporary woodwork sliding down, the statue stood revealed. It is a life-sized equestrian bronze statue, and those who had known Lord Canning in India pronounce the likeness to be a good one. It was designed by the late J. H. Foley, R.A., but on the death of that artist, it was executed by his pupil, M. T. Brock. It cost Rs. 35,000 in England, and the marble pedestal on which it stands cost another Rs. 7,000. On the base of this pedestal is the following inscription: "Charles John, Earl Canning, D.C., G.M.S.I., Governor-General and 1st Viceroy of India. Born 14 December 1812; died 17 June 1862." When the statue had been unveiled, a salute was fired from the Fort, and the ceremony came to a close.

Thus was honored the memory of the first and greatest Viceroy of her gracious Majesty the Empress of India. The Canning Statue is a noble monument of Indian gratitude. If there be those, who still or will hereafter question the existence of gratitude in the Indian mind, the Indians will triumphantly point to them this monumental record, which centuries will not efface. The British Indian Association have the proud satisfaction to know and feel that by erecting this Statue they have discharged in some measure the national debt to the wisest, greatest and justest ruler that has swayed the destiny of India since the transfer of its Government from the Company to the Crown. If they had not done their duty, perhaps the greatest Viceroy of India would have gone down in the stream of time unhonored and unremembered.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE FOLLOWING is the latest intelligence from Europe:

London 23rd March.—England has proposed to Russia that the diplomatic communication of the Treaty to the Powers shall be treated as equivalent to its presentation at Congress. Russia has refused to comply, believing that by diplomatic communication she has fulfilled her international obligations. The *Pall Mall Gazette* states that England has notified to Russia her discontent with this reply. Prince Bismarck and Count Andrassy are. Russia insists upon excluding from the Congress the Bessarabian question and the cession of Armenia.

28rd.—The relations between England and Russia are in a critical condition. It is reported that Russia demands that the British Ironclad squadron shall leave the Sea of Marmora and the Dardanelles. The Russian press are greatly irritated against England and accuse her of wishing to humiliate Russia. The French press support England.

THE PROCEEDINGS in the Lokenathpore case would seem to have been a comedy of errors all round. The report of Mr. Skrine shews that in evolving his theories from murder to "malicious suicide" he committed a series of errors. Mr. Stevens was equally smitten with errors. He allowed the prosecution to be instituted against the two men for giving false information to a public officer, which he afterwards admitted to have been a mistake. The Joint-Magistrate Mr. Taylor convicted them under a mistake, which was admitted in appeal, and the poor men were acquitted. Then Mr. Stevens refused to produce the report of Mr. Skrine before the Joint-Magistrate and the Sessions Judge, because he held the enquiry was not judicial. When he was called upon by the Judge to produce the report, he wrote back to say that he had been advised by superior authority, evidently the Commissioner, that he (the Judge) had no jurisdiction over him in this matter, as the enquiry was not judicial. The Judge made a reference to the High Court, and when Mr. Justice Jackson called upon the Legal Remembrancer to say his say on behalf of the Crown, the latter admitted that the enquiry was judicial, whereupon His Lordship said that there was an end of the matter. Thus there was a comedy of errors all round. The High Court has now ordered up the whole of the records for investigation by itself. Mr. Justice Jackson has acted judiciously in issuing this order. As Mr. Lawford is about to go on leave, and as there is considerable local excitement in the matter, the order of Mr. Justice Jackson that the matter should be investigated by the High Court, which is wholly free from local influences, commands the public confidence.

MORE THAN the situation in Europe, the License tax, and the Vernacular Press Act, does the marriage of the daughter of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen seem to excite the attention of a certain section of the Brahmo community. We do not blame them for cherishing such strong feelings on a question, which they consider affects their very existence as a spiritual body. They are fighting for principles and convictions, and no right-minded man can fail to sympathize with them in this struggle. Believing that in these days of publicity the Press is a power in the realm of discussion they have started an organ of their own, which they call "*Brahmo Public Opinion*." The first number is before us, and the editorial address is full of earnestness and lofty aspirations. The demonstrations made by the Brahmo Protestants against Babu Keshub Chunder Sen's daughter's marriage shew that the Brahmo Samaj has acquired a vitality of its own. Union is strength, but disunion sometimes calls into play the different elements of strength. The secession of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen from the Adi Somaj lent vitality to his particular movement, and that of his own disciples at the present moment may impart similar vitality and strength to the whole Brahmic movement.

IN OUR issue of the 26th November last we stated that the whole line of villages from Agurpara to Tetagurh on this side of the river was decimated with fever, and endeavoured to show how the drainage of those places in its flow to its natural channel, we mean the paddy fields on the eastern side of the Barrackpore road, had been intercepted. Then in our issue of the 4th February last we gave the names of some of the villages, which were suffering from fever, and amongst them we mentioned the names of all the villages from Bonhooghly to Barrackpore. We are glad to learn that these statements have attracted the notice of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, and that His Honor has issued instructions to the Public Works Department to remove the obstructions in question. We hope this work will be completed before the rains set in. May we venture to express a hope that the whole question of the drainage of the fever-stricken villages will speedily receive a satisfactory solution.

A VERY big case between some members of the well-known Munshi family of Taki has been recently heard by a Division Bench of the High Court, consisting of Mr. Justice Markby and Mr. Justice Prinsep. Will the reader believe it that the translation, examination, printing, &c., of the paper book in this case have cost the two parties Rs. 23,000! The bare statement of this fact will, we are sure, convince the public that the system on which business is done in the High Court demands a radical and peremptory change. A printed paper book is a necessity, because our Judges are either wholly ignorant of, or are but imperfectly acquainted with, the vernaculars of the country. But the question is whether the suitors should be mulcted or this deficiency of the Judges or whether the general revenue of the empire should not be charged for the accommodation of Judges, whose appointment is a matter of public advantage.

We further hear that the cost of translation in this case would not have been so oppressive to the parties as it has been, if they had been charged at the rates at which the translators were actually paid. These rates were 150 words a rupee on pleadings and documents, 200 words a rupee on depositions, dakhillas, and chalans, and 400 words a rupee on schedules, accounts, Jumma-wasil baki papers and the like. Nearly five-eighths of the papers translated in this case were of this last description, two-eighths of the second description, and only one-eighth of the first. But the Court charged the parties at *one uniform* rate of 150 words a rupee on *all* these descriptions of papers; then, again, we are told that the examination rate is 300 words a rupee on *all* sorts of papers. But if the translator gets only at the rate of 400 words a rupee on schedules, accounts, &c., we cannot understand why the man who simply examines the translations of each paper should be paid at the rate of 300 words a rupee. Surely examination, especially of accounts, schedules &c., is a much easier work than translation. On this head, too, the parties ought to have been, therefore, spared some of the expenses which they have actually incurred. We do think that the whole of this anomalous system ought to be immediately put an end to and replaced by the just and equitable system of charging suitors not a pice in excess of what the Court actually pays to its translators.

THE RESOLUTION of the Government of Bengal on the Board's report on the administration of Wards' and attached estates for 1876-77 thus opens:

This report has been prepared in the form which was first adopted in 1874-75, and contains the administrative history of the more important estate under the management of the Court of Wards. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining correct and consistent returns from the local managers, the report has been submitted late, and even now contains no mention of the large estate of Durbhunga, and no returns for the estate of Narail, in Jessore, of a more recent date than the year 1874-75.

This resembles, as a contemporary justly remarks, the play of Hamlet with the character of Hamlet left out. The report of the administration of Wards' estates contains no accounts of the Durbhanga and Nurrail estates, two of the largest estates under the management of the Court of Wards! So much for official discipline. We will notice the Resolution hereafter. It concludes with the following remarks on the Wards' Institution:

Allowing for the absence of special inducements to study, the progress made by the pupils seems to be fairly satisfactory, while the personal influence of the Director and encouragement given to out-door pursuits have produced a healthy general tone in the Institution. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to Dr. Rajendralala Mitra for his efficient management of the important and delicate charge entrusted to him.

If this Institution be compared with the sister Institutions in other parts of the country, it cannot be denied that this is certainly the best managed.

A MORNING CONTEMPORARY derides the idea of Mr. O'Donnell acting as the exponent of Indian

grievances. He forgets that India has nothing to do with the Home politics or Parliamentary attitude of any M. P., who may from philanthropic motives condescend to take up Indian questions. Mr. O'Donnell may not be liked in the House for his Home Rule views or what is called his "obstructive" proclivities; we in India are far from the influences of English party warfare; but we do feel grateful to any member, who lends his voice to the dumb millions of India, be he a Bright or a Fawcett, a George Campbell or an O'Donnell. Mr. O'Donnell has an advantage; he has at least sixty members at his back, who if they attend can secure a house of at least 120 members for an Indian debate, and this is no slight advantage. Mr. O'Donnell seems also to be an earnest man, and has already done some good. In the list of notices of motion we find the following:

"Mr. O'Donnell,—To ask the Under Secretary of state for India, whether the Road Cess Tax and the Public Works Tax are not an income tax of six per cent. on the entire native proprietary and farmers of Bengal:

And, whether he has seen any report of a recent native meeting at Bombay, protesting against the manner in which native incomes are burdened by income taxes more or less disguised, while European salaries and European profits are avowedly or practically exempted.

Mr. O'Donnell,—To ask the Under Secretary of State for India, whether a License tax has not been introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council by which incomes of five pounds a-year, or less than two shillings per week, such as are earned by the very poorest class of native market dealers, are to be taxed:

Whether the total amount leviable in any single instance, even in the case of the large incomes of the European trading and mercantile community, is not limited to twenty pounds:

And, whether Government proposes to introduce any compensatory measure to prevent the License Tax being practically a burden upon native trade alone."

And to these notices we believe we owe the comparatively equitable character of the Bengal License Bill. We learn from a telegram that Mr. O'Donnell has already called the attention of the House of Commons to the Vernacular Press Act, and although the motion was withdrawn under promise of a debate hereafter, we feel confident that this vitally important question will not be allowed to drop. It is but natural that the Irish Party should sympathize with the Indians in their struggle for the Liberty of the Press.

THE PAPERS of an Indigo case in Beerbhoom have been laid before us, which we regret we cannot publish *in extenso* for want of space. The facts of the case are as follows: Mr. McEwan of the Elambazar concern and some others were charged with theft for forcibly removing indigo from a village, to which the talookdar laid claim under contract with the ryot. The Planter contended that as the ryots used to cultivate indigo for his concern, he removed it in the usual way, whereas the Talookdar submitted agreements shewing that the ryots were under contract with him. The Magistrate, Mr. Trevor Grant, was of opinion that the real cause of the quarrel was the refusal of the planter to repair a bund, which he used to keep in repairs heretofore, and that the talookdar, dissatisfied with this, won over the ryots and entered into engagements with them for the cultivation of Indigo. It does not appear from the papers whether Mr. McEwan had given advances to the ryots or entered into specific contracts with them. The Magistrate dismissed the charge of theft and thus concluded his judgment:

"But I warn Mr. McEwan that though I do not think he was a thief his action is illegal and that he has been saved from being convicted of being a rioter only by the self restraint of the Talookdar his opponent. Each party appeared on the ground in some force. On the first day the Talookdar's party began to cut and on the second day (I arrived in the course of that day) Mr. McEwan put in his men. Fortunately for all the Talookdar then withdrew his men and on my demand Mr. McEwan also withdrew his. The ryots being left to cut, and deliver to whom they chose, gave the crops to the Talookdar which is proof that Mr. McEwan cut against their wishes. I warn Mr. McEwan that he had no right to take the crop against the wishes of the growers. Had a riot occured because of his so doing he would have been liable for all its consequences. The ryot must be left in possession of his crop to cut it and deliver it to whomsoever he will. If the ryot keeps a contract with reference to that crop, the party injured must seek redress in the Civil Court, must not take the law into his own hand.

But Mr. McEwan goes scot-free for committing this criminal trespass and forcible dispossession! Against this order of the Magistrate the complainant applied to the Sessions Judge of Beerbhoom for a reference to the High Court on certain points of law. The Sessions Judge remarks:

At all events disbelieving the story told by the ryots, the Magistrate had no other course to pursue than to dismiss the case of theft brought against Mr. McEwan. And even if my views in this respect did not coincide with those expressed by the Magistrate, I do not think that that alone would warrant a reference to the High Court. As to the other 2 points I fail to see how the parties have been materially prejudiced. If after hearing Mr. McEwan the Magistrate was satisfied as he evidently was, that there was no case, he was *not* obliged to examine Mr. McEwan's witnesses, while his deciding the case in the absence of the parties and without hearing counsel cannot be said to have prejudiced any one. Having once for all shaped out the course he intended to pursue, the Magistrate was not absolutely compelled to listen to arguments on facts which were already before him and regarding which he had formed an opinion. The question is not what (as is suggested) this Court would have done. I have only to see whether the proceeding adopted by the Magistrate displays such an error in law or so grave an irregularity as to necessitate a further and more complete enquiry and I cannot say that it does.

The warning given by the Magistrate to Mr. McEwan would seem to conflict somewhat with the view he has taken of the case, but I take it that the Magistrate there refers to facts as elicited by the witnesses after the charge had been heard, rather than to any pre-existing knowledge of the facts on the part of Mr. McEwan when he took upon himself to cut the crops.

With due deference we submit the Judge is not quite consistent. He admits that the Magistrate had decided the case in the absence of the parties and without hearing counsel, also that that officer had pre-conceived a theory about the case, and did not therefore think fit to call for further evidence, that the "warning he had given to Mr. McEwan would seem to conflict somewhat with the view he has taken of the case," and yet he did not see how the complainant was prejudiced! It is evident from the tenour of the judgment of the Sessions Judge that if the case had come before him in the first instance he might have taken a different view of it.

Correspondence.

MR. GEORGE WATT, M.B., C.M., F. L. S. AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—I regret to observe that in your issue of the 11th instant, you persist in your attempt to rid me of my good name. You have chosen the alternative of substantiating your charge of "wholesale borrowing"; and I am again under the necessity of addressing you on this subject. Silence on my part would give consent to a charge, which I unhesitatingly and unreservedly declare to be utterly false. This will I hope dispose of your generous sneer that I have "not denied having borrowed from others without acknowledgment" and that I "should need no help in the matter" of discovering borrowed passages.

With your usual candour you excuse yourself from substantiating the charge to the full extent on the ground that it would be "unpardonable" "to point out all the passages," and besides that "it would be tantamount to revising the book for a second edition ..... *gratis*"! How very generous to save your readers the risk and trouble of forming a different opinion from your own! One hardly knows which to admire the more—the amount of the consideration you show for your readers, or the keenness of your perception of "meum and tuum." It would be "unpardonable" to tell the whole truth, except "for a consideration." I agree with you however that there was a real difficulty in substantiating your charge, and therefore I quite understand your attempt to throw dust in your readers' eyes by professing a tender regard for their sensibilities. The passages you have brought forward are so far from substantiating the charge of "wholesale borrowing" that it must have been as a forlorn hope that you aired them with the usual amount of Latin. For the sake of your English readers I give the original of the passages you quote from my *First step* (P. 214.) "Though the homology of the petal with the leaf is less evident than with the sepal and bract, still it may be distinctly made out. The calyx is most frequently green and leaf-like, but nevertheless it often becomes coloured as much as, for in some cases more than, the corolla. The gradual passage of the greenish sepals of the water-lily (Fig. 176) into the white or coloured petals shows clearly the close resemblance which exists between sepal, and petal. In some cases the petals are even more leaf-like than the sepals although frequently more highly coloured. Thus while it is the most frequent condition of the sepal to be sessile, it is not so with the petal. Very often when free from each other the petals have a distinct stalk which is called the claw."

(P. 221.) "When the limb of a tubular corolla is cut up into two distinct lips it is said to be (*Labbate*) or lipped as in Fig. 189. The upper lip is composed of two petals closely united together and elongated upwards, arching over the mouth of the tube. The lower lip, on the other hand, is composed of three petals, not so closely united, the middle one being generally the longest and the most highly coloured. This is beautifully seen in the common *Bakus*."

That there are coincidences between these passages and those you cite from Dr. Silver's *Outlines* I freely admit, and probably they are to be explained, by the fact that Dr. Silver and I studied under the same master—Dr. Dickie of Aberdeen. At all accounts I did not consult Dr. Silver's work in writing my *First Step*. But you ridicule the possibility of the coincidences being either accidental or unavoidable; and unhesitatingly charge me with "appropriation." I was really not aware that the science of Botany was so dependent on Dr. Silver that any one describing the common facts of the science and defining its terms in much the same words as he has used must be charged with "*appropriation*"! *If you would only trouble yourself to compare other Botanical works you would not be long in finding similar coincidences.* Take one at random from your "*high authority*" and compare Dr. Bantley. For the sake of convenience I place these extracts in parallel columns.

Dr. Balfour's Class-Text Book page 201.	*Dr. Bentley's Manual of Botany page* 215.
"The corolla is the inner envelope of the flower, and is composed of a whorl of leaves called *petals*;".....	"The corolla is the inner envelope of the flower. It consists of one or more whorls of leafy organs, called *petals*.....
"Structurally they are composed of cellular and vascular tissue, the latter being spiral vessels and delicate tubes."	"In structure, the petals resemble sepals and leaves, being composed of parenchyma, supported by veins which are chiefly formed of spiral vessels."
"The epidermis of petals does not in general exhibit stomata, but it sometimes displays beautiful hexagonal and radiating markings under the microscope."	"These vessels are usually reticulated. The whole petal is invested by a layer of epidermis, which is commonly destitute of stomata, but these organs may be sometimes found on the lower surface."
"It is usually smooth (glabrous), but occasionally coloured hairs occur on it, as in the Buckbean."	"The corolla is generally smooth, although hairs occasionally occur, as in the *Bombax*; when they exist they are usually coloured, as in the Buckbean."

Are you prepared to charge either of these authors with "cleptic misappropriation"? And yet I submit the similarity between these passages, (and many more can be given from these and other authors), is as great (if not greater, because describing facts that *might* be put in other words), as that on which you rest your charge against me. Common facts must be described in much the same words or terms in all text-books. The man who founds on such casual coincidences a charge of plagiarism should be censured for his want of understanding, perhaps more than for his want of candour. Originality might, I dare say, be attained by one who, like my critic in his "India English" can "deny" a "fact," but I venture to assure him that, though he does not seem to see it, there is a vast difference between a fact and a fiction and that the man who denies a fact commits an offence, which in English Society is no less unpardonable than cleptic misappropriation on which he is so justly and severely sarcastic. My critic has searched my *First Step* for proof of his charge of "wholesale borrowing" and the best passages he can produce for his purpose only serve to prove that he does not recognise the laws of "meum and tuum" as requiring every man to speak the truth of his neighbour, I can only suppose that notwithstanding the assurance that "our temper remains perfectly unruffled" a critic for once proved as "irritable" as "some authors" are said to be, and that he came under the spell of "passion, the most potent neutraliser of common sense." So much so was this the case, that while he will not allow me to state as the law of nature what prevails in the vast majority of cases, he himself would build a general conclusion on the most slender basis and in some cases on no basis at all. Probably you will now know how to apply the proverb "The greater the truth, the greater the libel." You have so thoroughly exposed the weakness of your charge that, though common honesty should lead you to withdraw it I do not think it worth while to call on you again to do so. Pope has well said that:—

> A man convinced against his will
> Is of the same opinion still."

And taking even *your* view of the passages quoted, it is evident at a glance that they are as far from proving your charge of "wholesale borrowing" as your references to Botany are from proving that you know anything of the science. But I must hasten to the remarkable errors which you have obliged me by mentioning. The radish you say is "an underground stem" and not as I describe it, a root. Considering that you do "not claim any special knowledge of the subject," you can hardly be surprised if I ask the ground on which you lay down this "dictum" All the works I have ever seen describe it as a root and even Dr. Silver does so, though he adds that "some Botanists" call it an underground stem. There is probably very little real distinction between certain roots and stems, and the two extremities of the plant axis (as I have said in my *First Step*) differ from each other more in their mode of growth and function than in morphological characters. But while this view is taken by all modern writers I ask you to cite any author who describes the radish as a stem. Sach's is now universally recognised as the first living authority upon all matters of this kind. From your knowledge of German you will I have no doubt be able to understand Sach's own words which you will find at page 149 of his *Lehrbuch der Botanick*.

Again you represent me as saying that "the end of the root *alone* has the power of absorbing fluids." One so careful of the laws of *meum and tuum* might at least abstain from garbling my words. No one would gather from your quotation what is plain enough in the passage, from which you quote, that the word *alone* contrasts the thick parts of the root with the thin points or rootlets. It asserts that the latter have the power of absorption and not the former. But you pronounce *this* an error also, for you inform me that the "cut ends of stems absorb fluids freely." I really was not aware that a plant in its normal condition had *cut ends* of stems. A cut is abnormal; is it a "scientific mistake," while describing the *normal* conditions, to omit what may take place in an *abnormal* condition? A piece of deal wood absorbs water but it does not commence to grow so that it "will not be amiss to enquire" if the growth of a cutting be as you say in consequence of absorption and capillary attraction. Until the cutting has produced leaves of its *own*, assi-

milation of the absorbed sap cannot take place, so that it can derive no possible good from the fluid which, I am quite aware, it, in common with all vegetable fragments must suck into its tissue. Let me inform you that *all* botanists are agreed that the life of a cutting or of a seed is due entirely to metastasis or the re-arrangement of the nutrition which contains within its own substance and not to the manifestation of the physical laws of osmose and capillary attraction. "Stems of thick roots" have *not* the power of absorption. Upon this subject examine Balfour page 434; Bantly page 726; Brown 138; and Dr. Hooker's new Botany Primer page 39. So there was some substance in the "shadow" after all though you could not grasp it. Perhaps a reference to your first notice might now help you to understand how in one sentence you managed to misrepresent no fewer than six botanical laws.

You object to the statement that the root descends, on the ground that "this is not invariably the case." The pedantry of this is exquisite and is equalled only by the unscrupulousness with which my words are twisted. I state in my *First Step* that *as* "*a general rule* the root descends." It was convenient and not "unpardonable" to suppress the qualifying clause *gratis*, and also to suppress the fact that I describe a particular class of roots that are developed in the air. A little "honest study" of the work you criticise would not be thrown away.

You object to the statement that "that organ which first issues from the seed is the root" and add that "in the cocoanut the shoot or cotyledon comes out first." Here again you are at variance with facts and botanists; it would be sheer waste of time to make quotations. With reference to your learned remarks regarding the cocoanut, any competent teacher would inform you that shoot and cotyledon are not synonymous. Dr. Balfour (p. 641) says, "In all cases of monocotyledonous germination, after the radishes have descended into the soil, the plumule or first bud of the axis is developed, and the leafy stem is gradually formed." If you would devote yourself a little more closely to the "book of nature" than you seem to have done, notwithstanding your boast, you would probably discover that while in most palms, on germination, the petrolar extremity of the cotyledon elongates so as to carry the embryonic axis outside the seed, this is hardly if at all the case in the *cocoanut*. For the interesting peculiarities of the germination of the seeds of Palms I refer you to my *First Step* and to the drawings given of the Date.

You have now discovered that my remarks upon the *shimul* tree were not so inaccurate as you thought them, but instead of frankly confessing this you forget "that hard names break no bones," and so try to raise a laugh at 'lackadaisical nibbling at Dr. Brandi, writings's" probably it is so lackdaisical to scribble criticisms on subjects of which you "do not claim any special knowledge," as to nibble at the works of a man who makes it his business to observe and record facts. Think of "the priggish pedantry" of a man who because he finds one *shimul* in February with "*some leaves*"—(say 10,20 or even 200)—ventures to deny that as a general rule the *shimul* tree sheds its leave in *November* and who, because he finds on the 10th of March, that on five *shimul* trees leaf-buds have commenced to open, ventures to assert that the *shimul* does not remain leaf-less till April. Think of the "priggish pedantry" of the man who would venture to persuade the public against a publication because in *his* particular district the expression "towards the end of the rains" would not exactly correspond to the beginning of November. And probably a little "honest study" of English would also explain to my critic that when I said "*the shimul* sheds its leaves, so that its large, red and showy flowers may be seen at a distance" I did not necessarily state a *purpose*—the words are equally intelligible as stating a *consequence*.

It was very considerate on your part to quote Balfour's agents of defoliation, by way of explaining the "laws of Hybernation." You had already furnished me with a concrete example and I shall be satisfied if you will inform me of any *modern* author who uses the word "hybernation" in his text. Your remarks on fertilization however show that these laws must still be operating. This is your reason, I suppose, for thinking that by charging me with changing "my front" you can conceal that fact that you yourself have performed that amusing operation. You may have heard of "question begging epithets," at all events you have a good supply of them; and so you do not scruple to represent me as stating that "cross-fertilization" is "*Universal* law of nature "an *invariable* law of nature," "the] *only* law of nature." If you would do anything so commonplace as verify your statements you would find that the terms *universal, invariable* and *only* have been evolved from the depths of your own consciousness and not from my works, and that they are the only pegs on which you can hang the charge of a 'change of front.' It is you who have to plead guilty to the charge of hasty observation and generalisation, but to admit that would I dare say, be "unpardonable" and inconsistent with your views of *meum* and *tuum*. But you have still another matter to settle with your readers:—You tried to strengthen your statement that "the result of cross-fertilization in the *Primula* and *vulgaris* and the *Primula sinensis* was any thing but favourable," by quoting a passage from Darwin's *forms of flowers*, in which speaking of two sets of experiments he says: "The ratio for the number of seeds produced by the two legitimate compared with the two illegitimate unions is here as *100 to 53*:" Now either you know that with Darwin self-fertilization is the illegitimate union and cross-fertilization the legitimate one—in which case you have simply deceived your readers—; or you did not know and you must now plead guilty to "careless reading of Darwin" and "the vulgar practice" of quoting authorities whom you do not understand. You disapprove of my saying that the seeds of self-fertilized plants are less healthy than those obtained by cross-fertilization. In Darwin's *forms of flowers* (p. 28) you will find the following—"from the facts now given the superiority of a legitimate over an illegitimate union admits of not the least doubt." In page 30 while speaking of Primula, of which you inform your readers "the result of cross-fertilization was any thing but favourable," you will find that Dr. Darwin proves the extraordinary fact that self-fertilization is even less fertile than the seeds of hybrid or crossed species.

Regarding the 55 cleistogamic genera, (your knowledge of which you have made so prominent, as if fatal to my position), I regret that I have to charge you with not faithfully representing Dr. Darwin. If you will read *carefully* the concluding chapter of the *Forms of Flowers* you will not fail to observe that Darwin shows distinctly that little or no opposition to the law of cross-fertilization can be offered by the cleistogamic plants. He arrives at this conclusion from the fact, that many are only cleistogamic under cultivation, or under altered circumstances, or in the absence of the insects that were formerly necessary for their fertilization. He shows that 32 out of the 55 produce open as well as closed flowers; and that the former, from their being irregular, must be insect fertilized, some are constructed to be fertilized by wind when open flowers occur. Adaptation from either of these, to altered circumstances, might have produced the cleistogamic condition. The supplying the vernacular name for a supposed cleistogamic plant was evidently meant to convey the idea that your "close study of nature" had been extended to these peculiar and exceptional genera. To Ficus Venosa you might have added cocus nucifera and a host of other inflorescences which do not open at all or only after these flowers have been fertilized. It is only in keeping with your conduct to credit Darwin with so "unseemly blunder."

You think it silly to accuse *you* of the low vanity of displaying your knowledge of Buckle, Darwin and Hildebrand—perhaps; but facts are stubborn things', though you can "deny" them. Hildebrand no doubt added weight to your opinions, but you by mistake omitted to tell your readers whether you had yourself read this difficult German author or had contented yourself with merely reproducing Darwin's remarks regarding him. Was this an instance of "cleptic misappropriation" in which you "forgot the laws of meum and tuum in literary wars?" If so allow me to remind you once more of the virtues of a "Manchester moral handkerchief" and to recommend that you should not again stoop to the low vanity of professing a knowledge which you do not possess.

This letter is already very long but I must refer to one point more before I close. My critic writes: "Is it possible that the *private* letter was an *official* one and official reasons withheld the rejoinder." and he refers to a remark made by me in this private official letter. The correspondence has never to my knowledge been published; can it therefore be that the official with whom the correspondence was conducted is my critic of the *Hindoo Patriot*? It is to be hoped not. Let me remark I was fully satisfied with the official reason which withheld the rejoinder and consider it a necessary rule, of the existence of which however I was not aware until informed of. I am now however happy to have had this opportunity of confuting the charge of "wholesale borrowing and crass scientific mistakes" which has proved so injurious to the sale of my publication. Let me assure my critic that if he has nothing to lose I have much to gain by a full and free discussion of this subject.

May I add that a just regard to the laws of *meum* and *tuum* should lead my critic when he honours me with another reference to give me my proper name and designation.

I am yours faithfully.
GEORGE WATT.

Hooghly, March 16th 1878.

P.S.—I would suggest that you should compare the opinions you have now given utterance to with those you had the goodness to publish in January 15th, 1877.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*March*, 20, 1878.

GENERAL.—Baboo Dwarkanath Bose, Sub-Deputy Collector Bogra, to be a Sub-Deputy Collector, First Grade.

Baboo Nobin Chunder Roy, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Pabna, to be a Sub-Deputy Collector, Second Grade.

Moulvi Wajee-coddeen Ahmed, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Julpigooree, to act in the Second Grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors until further orders.

Mr. F. St. C. Grimwood, Assistant Magistrate and Collector Sewan, Sarun, to have charge of the Tajpore Division, Durbangah.

The orders appointing Mr. F. H. Harding, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca in charge of the Tajpore Division, Durbangah, are cancelled.

Mr. C. J. O. Donnell, Offg Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nowadah division Gya, to have charge of the Sewan division Sarun.

Mr. J. B. Wargan, District and Sessions Judge of Sarun and Chumparun who was appointed to act in the First Grade of Judges, will continue to act in that grade until further orders.

Mr. A. C. Mangles, Offg. Opium Agent, Behar to act as Commissioner of the Chotanagpore division.

Mr. T. E. Ravenshaw, Commissioner of the Orissa division and Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttuck, obtained furlough for a period of eight months, together with a subsidiary leave for 21 days.

Mr. A. Smith, Offg. Commissioner, Dacca to act as Commissioner of the Orissa division and as Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, Cuttuck.

Mr. D. R. Lyall, Magistrate and Collector of Dacca to act temporarily as Commissioner of the Dacca division.

Mr. F. H. Harding, Offg, Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, to act temporarily as magistrate and Collector of that district.

OPIUM.—Mr. W. H. D'Oyly, Magistrate and Collector Rajshahye, to act Opium Agent Behar during the absence on leave of Mr. W. H. Alexander.

Dr. J. J. Durant, Principal Assistant, Opium Agent, Behar to have charge of the office of Opium Agent, Behar, in addition to his own duties.

MEDICAL.—Baboo Aushoke Krishna Shaha, Resident Assistant Surgeon, Campbell Hospital Sealdah, obtained leave for two months and twelve days.

Surgeon Major R. Bird, Civil Surgeon, Burdwan, to act as Civil Surgeon of Patna and Superintendent of Temple Medical School until further orders.

Surgeon L. Cameron, Civil Surgeon Backergunge, on leave, to act as Civil Surgeon of Burdwan until further orders.

Third Grade Assistant Surgeon Dabendranath Gupta, temporarily attached to the Charitable Dispensary at Chupra, to have charge of the Charitable Dispensary at Boinchee, Hoogly.

Third Grade Assistant Surgeon Anghore Nath Bose to have charge of the Charitable Dispensary at Chupra.

Third Grade Assistant Surgeon Buttakrishna Dutta on leave to have Medical Charge of the Sub-division of and Dispensary at, Palamow, Lohardugga.

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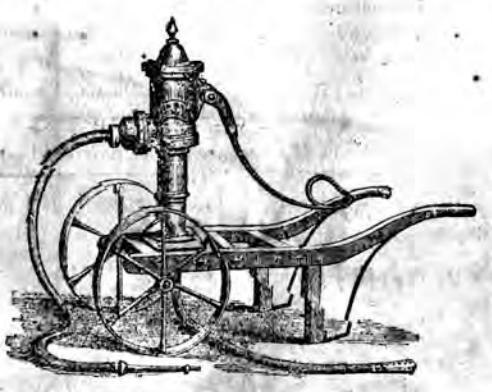

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J. JONES,
Officiating Surgeon Superintendent.
Calcutta General Hospital, 8th March, 1878.

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